

# CONNECT



# CONTENTS

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5

**Welcome**

From the President

6

**Indigenous art from the Northern Plains**

Natalie Hill's journey from researcher to exhibition curator

10

**Britain's lost women artists**

Rediscovering lost art for Tate Britain

14

**From the Bronx to the White House**

Nicole Isaac's extraordinary journey

18

**Improving survival rates for children with cancer**

On a mission to find better answers

22

**Kellogg's West Campus**

Our plans for expanding the College site

26

**Street Voice**

Kellogg leads a ground-breaking project on the future of travel in Oxford

30

**In pursuit of sustainable living**

Healthy cities, hosting internships & leading community engagement

33

**Alumni profile: Kathy Davies**

Historic Buildings Consultant

34

**Príncipe past and present**

Environmental lessons from a West African island

39

**Alumni profile: Emily Petek-Sargeant**

Senior Marketer

40

**Changing the world one weave at a time**

Bindu Vinodhan updates us on her work with Odisha's women weavers

44

**Profile: Jessie Weavers-Medina**

Meet GCHU's Centre Administrator

52

**Amal Al Gergawi**

Climate quitters and non-linear careers

56

**My role at Netflix**

Rajiv Dalal discusses his role as Director of Content & Studio Affairs

58

**Breaking new ground**

Exciting first developments to Kellogg's green spaces









# Welcome

As a member or friend of our College, thank you for your support. Taken together, your contributions explain why this past year has probably been the most successful in our 33 year history; and why the coming year is set to be even more transformational.

We saw our Fellow Professor Louise Richardson move from being the first woman Vice Chancellor in the University's 900-year history, to become the President of the Carnegie Corporation, New York. One of Professor Richardson's last acts in Oxford was her 'In Conversation' event at Kellogg's Hub which culminated in a standing ovation. It also saw the arrival of the next Vice Chancellor, Professor Irene Tracey, whose Inaugural Address urged community engagement, and sure enough, the next month she was at Kellogg for our Bletchley Park Week – an annual event which grows in impact each year. It was here that a World War II enigma machine was being demonstrated to an

impressively diverse and enthusiastic audience from East Oxford Primary School, who were learning the truth behind the machine and behind the Oxford College walls, which they loved.

The following week, at our Foundation Dinner, our new Vice Chancellor announced she had decided to accept our invitation to become a Kellogg Fellow. Welcome!

This past year saw other Kellogg Fellows take on new roles. Professor Therese Hopfenbeck was headhunted by the University of Melbourne to become the Director of their Assessment and Evaluation Research Centre. Our continuing Bynum Tudor Fellow, HRH Prince of Wales, became King.

His Prince's Foundation continues to support our Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation, which epitomises our being the University's most interdisciplinary college. One of their initiatives – the Commission on Creating Health Cities – is reported in this issue; supported

by The Prince's Foundation, the McCall MacBain Foundation, Bynum Tudor Fellow Dr Ralph Walter, and our great friend Halley Liu, the Commission produced a Report on Creating Healthy Cities which is being actively discussed and implemented locally and globally.

As well as being Oxford's most interdisciplinary college, we are also the most diverse, and the most international. I trust the benefits of this are illustrated here, in this edition of *Connect*. If you have any questions or comments, please do contact me. This is a joint endeavour.

*Jonathan Michie*

Professor Jonathan Michie  
*President, Kellogg College*



North American Indigenous art is little seen beyond the United States, which is why **Natalie Hill** (DPhil History, 2022) decided to curate an exhibition in Oxford of horse-related art from Native Americans of the Northern Plains. Here she describes her journey of this research topic and explains how she came to meet some of the artists.

# Indigenous art from the Northern Plains



Michelle Walking Bear's children, Susanna and Spur Whiteclay, ready for the Crow Fair parade





Anthropological research has changed dramatically in the last few decades, as internet access and social media have spanned the globe and made remote connections possible. But there is a big difference between having information and Instagram posts at your fingertips and making a meaningful connection with someone.

Despite spending the whole of my first year researching North American Indigenous Plains artists and horse people, by the time I needed to start my fieldwork I had few definite contacts despite a number of potential leads. So in the spring of 2017, with two possible connections on the Crow Reservation in Montana, I headed to the only accommodation I could find within Native American boundaries nearby – a cabin in the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, next to Crow Country.

Within a day my hosts had introduced me to a Northern Cheyenne artist and horseman, who invited me to spend time at his ranch. This was Leroy Whiteman, one of the two people the art exhibition *Evoking The Horse: Indigenous Artists of the North American Plains* was dedicated to. Over the next few weeks my connections grew. Indian Country is a place where you have to be present to meet people, and I could see why my online research hadn't produced many results.

I wanted to provide a little window into this world for people here in the UK. Doing this by displaying artworks is not only more accessible and engaging for a wider public, but also allowed me to promote the art of some of the artists I worked with. The

exhibition showcases Native American art relating to horses, and brings together the artwork of several contemporary Northern Plains artists. The collected works consider the relationship between people and horses, and the cultural, spiritual and political significance of the horse both in the past and today.

### Using art as an anthropological source

I have been working with horses and art in my research for many years now. During my undergraduate degree in Archaeology and Anthropology (at the University of Bristol) I found I could combine my love for animals and my artistic background in my research. For my initial project I was interested in working with a minority community in the UK. I began work with Gypsy Traveller communities because of their specific relationship to horses and the way some of their art (e.g. decorated vardos) is closely linked to horses.

I moved to Oxford to undertake a Master's in Visual, Material and Museum Anthropology, which strengthened my dedication to using art objects and images as anthropological and historical sources, and increased my skills and experience in working with museum collections. I want to promote these research methods, which is why the exhibition also encourages reflection on the value of exploring art and objects in academic research.

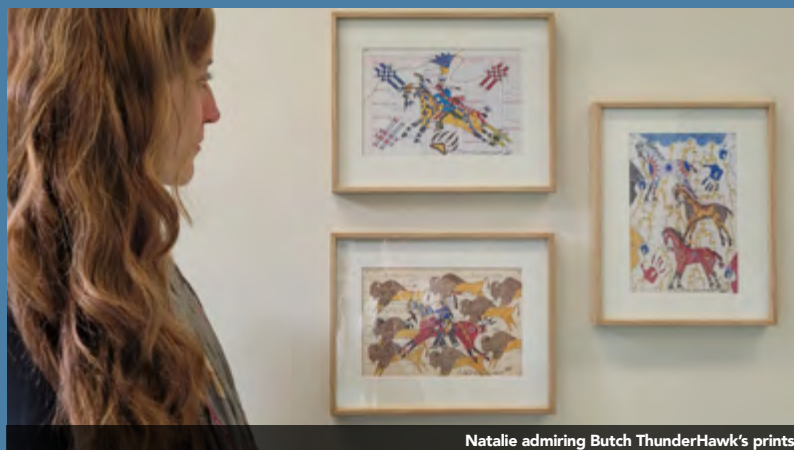
I started researching Native American connections to horses and their depictions in art at the Smithsonian's National Museum of



Crow Fair parade 2018: note beaded decorations, same style as in exhibition



Crow Fair parade 2018: traditional regalia, as seen in ledger artwork



Natalie admiring Butch ThunderHawk's prints



Exploring Blackfeet County, Montana



Being taught fringing by Mamie Stewart Yellowtail at Crow Fair

the American Indian (Washington DC). My Master's thesis was an analysis of their temporary exhibition *A Song for the Horse Nation*. I continued the topic for my DPhil in History, which traces the history of human-horse relations in several North American Indigenous communities, and how those relationships were and still are depicted in art. I focus on the Northern Plains region, from c.1700 to the present day, looking at how these historic relationships were represented in art and craft items, many made by women, at a time when horses were a major catalyst for change within Plains tribes.

The relationship between horses and Plains Indians continues today. For most of 2017 and the next two summers I undertook ethnographic fieldwork within Native American horse culture communities, which is when I acquired the artworks. The art in the exhibition came together through the kindness and generosity of many people.

I stayed on the Apsáalooke (Crow), Tsis tsis'tas (Northern Cheyenne), Pikuni (Blackfeet) and Lakota (Western Sioux) Reservations. To meet artists and horse people within the communities, I went to fairs and art events, parades and Native Days. One of the social hubs on the Crow Reservation is the Trading Post – part store for Native merchandise, both commercial and made by local artists, part popular café-restaurant, where I was able to make and maintain contacts. I also met key individuals who had wide networks and went out of their way to make introductions for me. The friendship and spirit of giving I encountered were unparalleled. Some artworks were gifted to me, a few I bought from artists who were participants for my research.

The exhibition represents artists from the Apsáalooke, Pikuni and Lakota Nations. It presents original artworks from Mona Bear Medicine Crow, Ernest Marceau, Birdie Real Bird and Jeremy Johnson, along with printed works from Earl Biss and Butch ThunderHawk. The artists take inspiration from historical Indigenous artistic traditions, such as ledger drawing, painted parfleche designs and beadwork, whilst innovating and reworking ideas to respond to

their contemporary world. By bringing them together and exhibiting them in the Rothermere American Institute, I aim at bringing visibility to Indigenous artists' work, influencing the physical and intellectual dynamics within the Institute, and communicating the importance of the horse in these cultures, and human-animal relations in general.

## Sharing with an audience beyond the academic

Although my research has evolved in multiple directions, in essence my vision and thesis questions and interests remained the same. I had always wanted to curate an exhibition as part of the outcome of my research. Accomplishing this has only increased my enthusiasm for disseminating my research in more public spaces, rather than solely in academic circles.

One example is the film I made of the exhibition for those who could not attend in person. It includes narratives of my relationship with each artist and each piece of artwork. I have also created a website for my research and am in conversation with a filmmaker about making a short film of my fieldwork. It has become increasingly important for me to share my work and my contacts' stories with a wider audience, especially using visual dissemination and my contacts' own voices.

The website hosts online exhibitions and provides a space where I can share aspects of my research. A version of the exhibition can be seen on the website, and will be followed up by an expansion to promote additional artists. I hope it will also provide an important resource for other researchers, hosting a dataset of photographs and information on art and horses within the communities I worked with. Beyond the confines of a thesis, it will be a place to explore significant ideas and themes. For more information please visit: [horsenationsart.com](http://horsenationsart.com)

*Evoking The Horse: Indigenous Artists of the North American Plains* exhibition is on until the end of August 2023 at the Rothermere American Institute, Oxford ([www.rai.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rai.ox.ac.uk)).



# The search for Britain's lost women artists





Henrietta Rae, *Psyche before the Throne of Venus*.  
Private collection, courtesy Martin Beisly Fine Art, London







Is it really true that there were very few great women artists in the past? Curator Amy Lim (MSt Literature and Arts, 2017) believes that much outstanding work has been lost, and she is working hard to rediscover it for a 2024 Tate Britain exhibition.



Henrietta Rae in *The Sketch with paintings*

'Why have there been no great women artists?' asked feminist art historian Linda Nochlin in an influential 1971 essay of the same name. Looking around at the landscape of contemporary art, we might be tempted to wonder what she was talking about. Since Nochlin wrote her essay, many women artists have reached the top of their profession. The prestigious Turner Prize has been won nine times by an individual woman since its inception in 1984. As I write, an exhibition of Alice Neel's paintings at the Barbican Centre in London is receiving rave reviews. Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama has attained superstar status, with fans queuing for hours to spend just 90 seconds in one of her Infinity Rooms.

But looking back in history, particularly to the so-called old masters, we might begin to wonder if Nochlin had a point. Works by women artists make up a tiny proportion of historic art collections: out of over 2,300 paintings in the National Gallery, London, only 21 are by women. Nochlin argued that the fault lay not in women's lack of

innate 'greatness' but because women were socially and institutionally excluded from the conditions necessary to achieve 'greatness'. They were largely excluded from formal art training (particularly life drawing classes), and social expectations prevented them from dedicating themselves to art as a profession. Was Nochlin right? Or were there in fact plenty of 'great' women artists whose works have simply been lost and forgotten?

These are the questions that I am grappling with as I work as a researcher on an exhibition of women artists in Britain, to be held at Tate Britain, London, from May to October 2024. During my DPhil, I had worked at Tate as part of a Collaborative Doctoral Partnership, and I jumped at the chance to return to the gallery to contribute to this important exhibition. Although the exhibition will cover four centuries of women's art, my focus is on the 19th century. It's a period that is relatively unfamiliar to me, but by transferring the skills I developed during my DPhil, I have been able to get quickly up to speed.

A major exhibition is built on a solid foundation of research. Only a small amount of our findings will eventually make their way into wall texts, captions or the catalogue, but we need to create a narrative that unfolds as the visitor progresses from room to room, and will stand up to criticism. We want to tell a story that admits the barriers and limitations that women artists have faced, while celebrating the achievements of the women artists who managed to overcome those barriers. Curating an exhibition is not the same as being an academic art historian, but while exhibition-goers want to be told a story and to learn something new, they also want to see great art. An art exhibition needs to be a fantastic visual experience, not simply an intellectual exercise.

Fortunately, although women artists faced many barriers, there were plenty who did, against the odds, create great works of art. Our challenge as curators is to find those works. Time and again, we read glowing press reviews about a painting,



**Hylas and the Water Nymphs, Henrietta Rae**

but when we try to locate it, it seems to have vanished into thin air. Although a handful of women's paintings and sculptures are in museum collections, many others have been lost or destroyed. One of my tasks has been to contact auction houses and dealers, hoping to track down paintings that have disappeared into private collections.

One such artist is Henrietta Rae (1859-1928). In the 1880s and 1890s, Rae was one of the most celebrated artists in Britain, yet today, she's largely unknown. She worked in the traditional academic style, painting classical compositions and nudes that were typically the preserve of male artists. While Rae's greatest critical and commercial success, *Psyche before the Throne of Venus* (1894), has recently come to Tate on long-term loan, many of her other major works are now known only

from photographs and engravings. We will have to tell her story through those reproductions as much as the paintings themselves.

Curating an exhibition of historic women's art does, therefore, bring certain challenges. But by May 2024 I am confident that we will have brought together a fantastic selection of art that showcases the achievements of historic women artists, while acknowledging the limitations they faced. The success of contemporary women artists shows what women can achieve when they are given equal opportunities to train and work professionally. As with so many aspects of society, when we confront inequality, people are enabled to achieve their full potential, and we are all richer for it.



**Zephyrus Wooing Flora, Henrietta Rae**

Amy Lim is currently a Curator at Buscot Park, Oxfordshire, and a researcher for Tate Britain. She completed an MSt in Literature and Arts at Kellogg (2017).



# Oxford lessons from to the White House and beyond

Nicole Isaac was raised in an impoverished neighborhood in the Bronx and has built an extraordinary career founded on core values inspired by her time in Oxford.



Nicole Isaac's career is not just impressive. It's extraordinary. And one of the most extraordinary things about it is how she has repeatedly placed herself in some of the most influential places to be found anywhere in the world during the past two decades. The US Senate. The White House (as a special assistant to President Obama, no less). LinkedIn. Meta. And finally Google. In between all these roles

she founded a non-profit dedicated to leveraging technology to provide resources for inner city youth.

What drives a career like this? 'My mother is Jamaican, my father is Costa Rican, and I grew up in New York City in the Bronx,' Nicole says. 'I was always struck by the inequality for individuals from certain parts of the country and how that level of inequity mirrored other inequities globally. We would sometimes go to Jamaica in the summer to visit relatives, and I would see parts of Jamaica that were frankly not as developed.'

When she received a scholarship to a private school in New York, through Prep for Prep aged 12, her awareness of inequality intensified. 'It became a very stark contrast. I wanted to understand how

to make it better. And from a very young age I was always moving towards that.'

## Launching a career in law school

Nicole first studied at Brown University, and later went on to law school at the University of Pennsylvania before doing a masters in international affairs in Columbia. She also completed a clerkship at the Constitutional Court of South Africa and realised she wanted to go further with her studies. She had hoped to do a masters at a South African university but wasn't able to access the funding she would need. 'I started looking at other programmes, came across Oxford, and it was an amazing programme and perfect for what I was seeking to do.'





After accepting admittance to Oxford, Nicole received an offer to work on the Floor of the United States Senate, at the Capitol. The role would include helping to support the consideration of legislation through the US Senate. She realised early on, that while the job would require late nights and early mornings, that if she could combine this with an MSc in International Human Rights Law at Oxford – something made possible by the part-time nature of the course – she would be able to develop critical and practical human rights expertise. Nicole was quite determined to do both and told the then Chief of Staff about her commitment to the programme to ensure that spending six weeks for two summers overseas would not be an issue. 'I made sure they understood that I would

not accept the job unless I could complete my programme at Oxford that I was 150% committed to – if that's a thing. I was overly committed.'

Oxford was a turning point in her life, not only because of the content of her studies but the entire experience. She recalls: 'Some of the best memories I have – in addition to the curriculum and being in the classes and studying at this majestic, amazing university – are the professors. I'm so sorry for the loss of Christof Heyns (Kellogg Visiting Fellow in Human Rights Law), who was phenomenal and just a beacon of light for so many of us. He was an inspiration and a gift to our community.

'I remember there were times after our class when Christof would go to the pub with the students, and we'd sit down

and we'd talk about what's happening in Ukraine or in South Africa or in Zimbabwe or parts of Colombia, we would have these amazing conversations that you would only have at Oxford with a group of intellectuals and academics who are equally committed and actually practising. Those are my fondest memories to be quite honest, just the recollection of sitting around on a random Wednesday afternoon. I would tell my then boyfriend, now husband, "I'm sorry I didn't call you honey, we went to the pub after class and we were there for a couple of hours just talking about these incredible, incredible ways to collectively resolve human rights challenges."

Oxford helped to solidify Nicole's determination and to 'catapult my commitment' to make change happen.





'Everything I've done since my time at Oxford has been a part and a culmination of the work I studied there, the relationships I made, and personally the level of empowerment I felt as a woman of colour. For example, it was at Oxford where I heard Patti Sellers discuss her experiences at the UN to help manage accountability for how nations around the world contend with racial discrimination.'

That empowerment has served her well since. While she was finishing her dissertation she moved on from the Floor of the Senate to the White House, first working for Vice-President Biden as deputy director for legislative affairs and later as special assistant to President Obama. Even here, at the heart of the leadership of the most powerful nation on earth, she found her Oxford background empowering. 'Having that additional level of focus, the additional commitment, the additional expertise, provided me with credibility,' she says.

## Turning to tech

After five years in the White House, Nicole's restless ambition to drive change forced her on. At a time of proliferating technology, she set up a non-profit designed to increase resources for inner-city youth through access to technology. 'I saw that as a human right,' she says simply. At the same time she taught international business at Georgetown University in

Washington DC, but before long it was time to move on. 'It was actually that non-profit that led to LinkedIn, where I helped the company to leverage data to partner with multilaterals such as the World Bank, the OECD, the UN, and national governments, to inform workforce development. The arc for me was a continuum – at LinkedIn I applied the lessons learned at Oxford, the core values of human rights, access to opportunity, access to equality and equal resourcing.'

When she subsequently moved to Meta she managed a global team focusing on risk mitigation during heightened political activity, such as escalations in Israel or the Afghanistan troop withdrawal. Here the work included leading a team to help identify product solutions, such as the locked profile feature in Afghanistan, to protect users on the platform.

Nicole's current role is at Google, helping develop tools and features to address the challenges of misinformation, hate speech and other harmful content and developing strategies that uphold values around user trust in response to emerging regulations. And then what? Does Nicole have a next step in mind?

## A return to government?

'I love government,' she responds thoughtfully. 'I felt extremely impactful when I was in government. Long term, whether it's five years, ten years, 20 years,

God willing everything works out, I'd like to go back to government in a senior capacity, and really address some of the work that I started with respect to resolving those inequalities that I've highlighted.'

She describes her concerns about current economic conditions. 'If the current inflationary environment is hard for people who have access to resources, what's it like for people who don't have the ability to really take care of their children and access medical needs, provide adequate housing and food? Imagine how difficult it is. For instance, how many times have we been lucky enough to be price indifferent on our grocery bill – we need the goods, and while the costs are more, we are still able to purchase them. I remember all too well my mother sending us to the store with five dollars to purchase milk, bread, and maybe a little bit of meat or cheese. How lucky were we that we had enough, but it was far from enough. For so many, that trade-off is still real, where it's either milk or bread, or lights, or rent. Not all. This reality is never far from my mind, and the responsibility to help make it better is never far from my heart.'

'That's when I think back to the learnings and lessons at Oxford. What does it truly take to accomplish change in our communities? And how can we do it in a manner that's truly impactful, that's effective and that is globally sustainable. That's the question.'

# Kellogg 1990 CLUB

Launched as part of the College's 30th anniversary celebrations, the 1990 Club is aimed at recognising alumni who make regular gifts to the College.

## Regular gifts

Help us to move forward with projects that matter most to Kellogg and make a difference to students' lives.

**For more information on how to become a member,  
please get in touch with the Development Office at  
1990Club@kellogg.ox.ac.uk  
or visit [www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/supporting-Kellogg/1990-club](http://www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/supporting-Kellogg/1990-club)**



## GAUDY DINNER 2023

Saturday 23rd September

Book now: [www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/events/gaudy-2023](http://www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/events/gaudy-2023)







**Profile:** Ranin Soliman, cancer researcher

What are the best ways to improve survival rates for children with cancer when resources are limited?

**Ranin Soliman** has devoted her DPhil research at Kellogg to finding better answers.

On a mission  
to help more  
children ■

SURVIVE



## Ranin Soliman works in paediatric cancer research in Egypt, and is currently doing a DPhil in Evidence-Based Health Care. We asked her about her work, what brought her to Oxford, and what motivates her.

### Where were you working before embarking on your DPhil at Oxford?

Before starting my DPhil I was (and still am) working at the Children's Cancer Hospital in Egypt (CCHE). After my graduation from the Faculty of Pharmacy at Cairo University, I joined CCHE in 2010 as a clinical researcher, where I was interested in studying the health outcomes of children with cancer. I wanted to find ways to improve their survival outcomes.

In 2017 I established the Health Economics and Value Unit at the hospital, to promote value-based healthcare for children with cancer. Over the last six years, I have worked on generating evidence to improve childhood cancer health outcomes and resource use in Egypt, which is the main focus of my DPhil research work and also an important component of my work in Health Economics at the hospital.

### Why did you decide to study at Oxford?

I first came to Oxford in January 2017 to attend the Hellish Decisions in Healthcare Conference organised by Professor Sir Muir Gray, hosted by the Value-Based Healthcare Programme within Oxford's Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences. It was my privilege to get introduced to Professor Sir Muir Gray and Dr Anant Jani and learn about value-based healthcare from them. While in Oxford, I learnt about the DPhil programme in Evidence-Based Health Care (EBHC) and

I became very excited to join it. I was accepted in June 2017, and came back to Oxford in October that year for the matriculation.

Since my first visit to Oxford, I have had the impression that I have stepped into some sort of a fairy tale; a vibrant city bursting with a passion for knowledge, eagerness to learn, and a scent of authenticity. My love for Oxford made me excited to pursue my DPhil in EBHC with the Centre of Evidence-based Medicine (CEBM), one of the world's leading centres in evidence-based medicine/healthcare worldwide.

### Can you give us a brief summary of your research for non-scientists?

My DPhil research is about generating evidence to improve childhood cancer health outcomes and resource use in Egypt. My work involves three main parts: first, using local data to generate real-world evidence about the survival outcomes, resource use and associated costs. Based on these findings, I made evidence-based recommendations to improve survival rates and promote cost-effectiveness of treatment.

The second part of my DPhil focuses on a systematic review of the literature to generate high-quality evidence about a key priority area from local context – finding cost-effective treatment strategies for children with relapsed acute leukaemia.

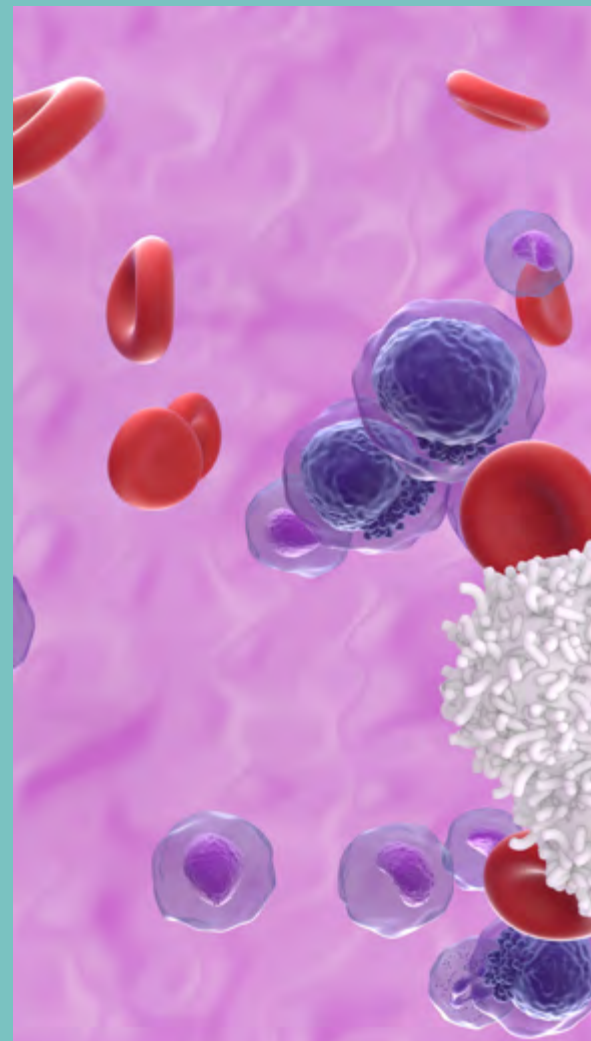
Third, in the last part of my DPhil, I

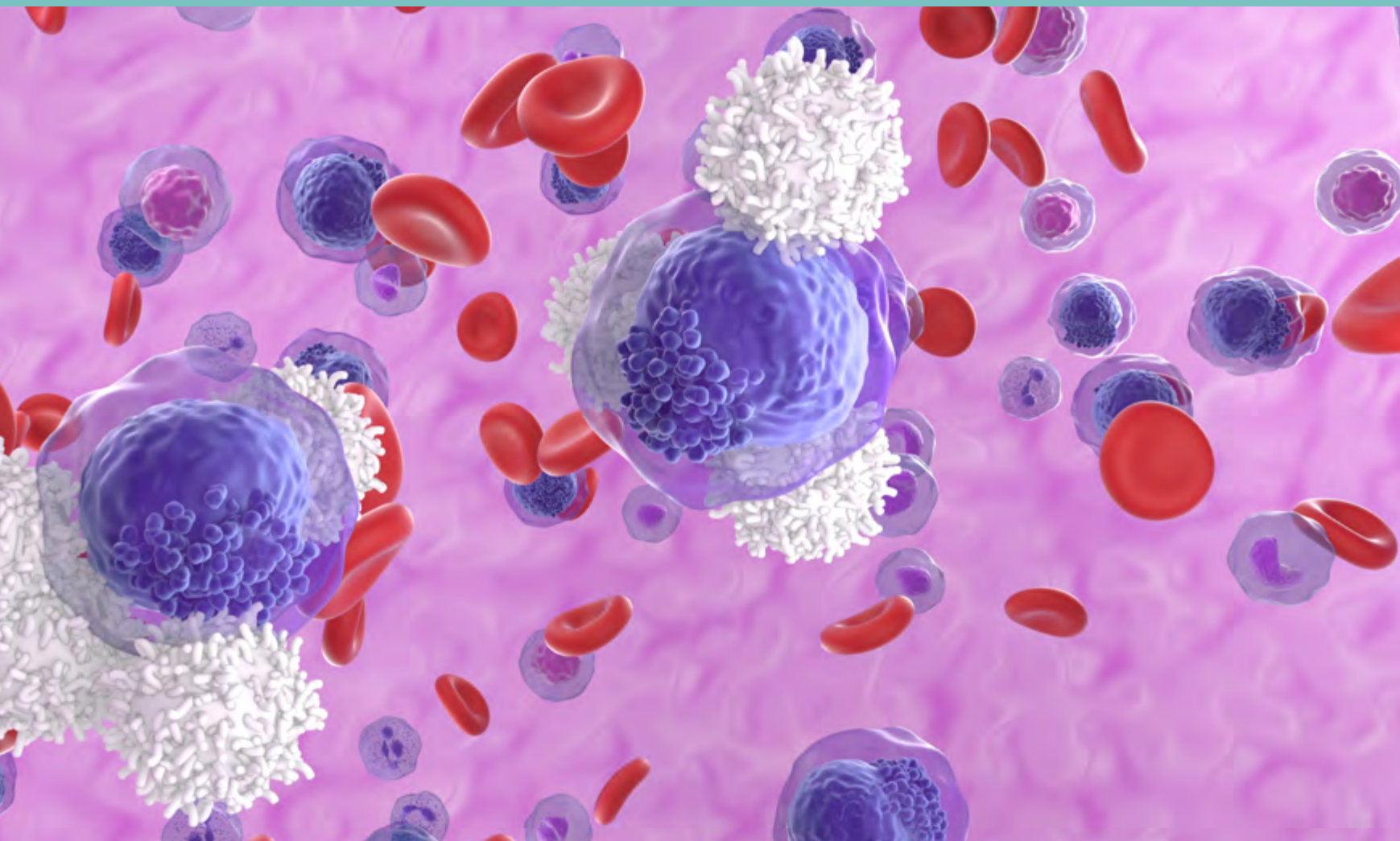
conducted interviews with doctors working in my hospital in Egypt, to explore and understand their perceptions about implementing cost-effective treatment for children with cancer based on evidence. I asked them about potential barriers and facilitators, and their suggestions to help translate knowledge into practice.

### Why did you decide to focus on this area?

I have always been interested in cancer research, and after working at CCHE and witnessing the suffering of children with cancer, it became my passion to work in the field of childhood cancer. It would mean a lot to me if I can conduct research that would help improve their health outcomes and prolong their survival, while maximising the use of the available resources and effectively managing costs to meet Egypt's resource-limited capacities.

I would do anything to help improve





their survival outcomes and promote value in care delivery. My dedication to help children with cancer and serve the community stems from my school years. At Ramses College for Girls (RCG) they taught us to develop a sense of commitment to help make our communities a better place. RCG's motto was 'Enter ye to learn. Leave ye to serve', which has greatly shaped my personality.

### **What are you hoping to do on completion of your doctorate?**

After completing my DPhil, I hope to spread the knowledge and skills I gained in evidence-based healthcare across Egypt, emphasising the use of real-world evidence, systematic evidence from literature, generating qualitative evidence, critical appraisal and assessing quality of evidence, and knowledge translation into practice. I also hope I can generate high-quality evidence about key health priority areas in

Egypt, in order to make evidence-based policymaking which informs clinical practice.

### **Tell us something about yourself that not many people might know**

I enjoy writing poetry as a hobby. I even wrote a poem about evidence-based healthcare, called 'And then evidence resonates', that was published as a blog on the website of the CEBM. You can check it out here: [www.cebm.ox.ac.uk](http://www.cebm.ox.ac.uk)

### **What advice do you have for someone thinking about applying to Oxford?**

For those thinking about applying for a DPhil, I would strongly advise them to choose a research topic that they are truly passionate about and willing to dedicate years of their lives to. This is because studying for a research-based DPhil at Oxford demands a lot of hard work and

effort. I will also tell them to enjoy their learning journey while it lasts. Studying at Oxford is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and they should make the most of it.

### **What is your experience of Kellogg as your Oxford college?**

For me, Kellogg is the place where I can hang out anytime I come to Oxford, a place to have a nice cup of coffee at The Hub Café or to study in the library.

I was truly impressed by the diversity and the global perspective; it feels as if the whole world has come to Oxford to meet in Kellogg College. The dinner events there are out of this world, and I have had an exceptional experience dining with my mentor and supervisor Professor Carl Heneghan, who is a Kellogg Fellow. I will always be looking forward to returning as a proud alumna or a lifelong learner, after I complete my DPhil.



**Our planned expansion across the Banbury Road will create a new West Campus that will enable us to support more of the world's best graduate students.**



# **West Campus: Kellogg's exciting next step**

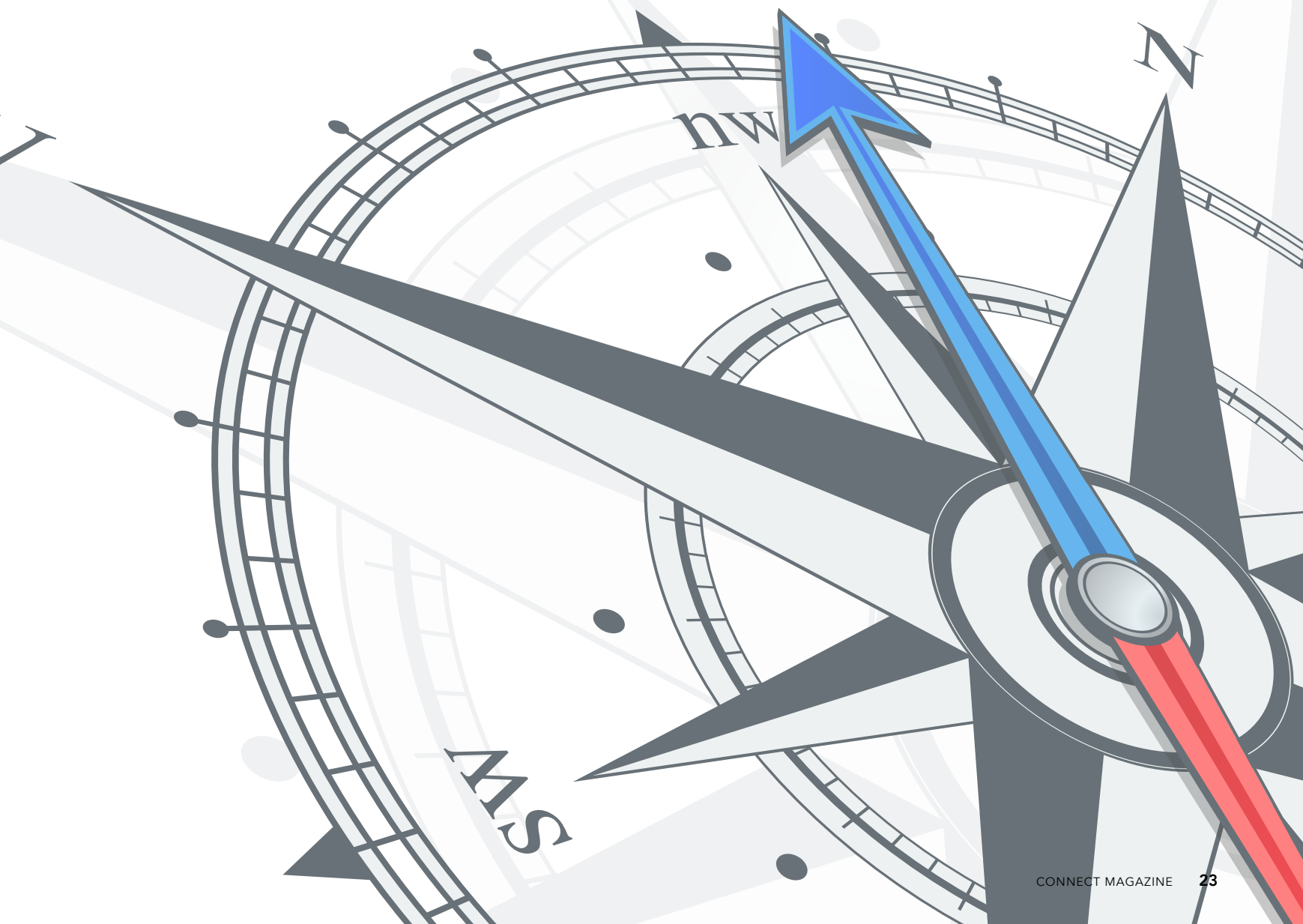
Kellogg's planned West Campus will be a tremendous next step towards completing our College grounds. It will expand our campus across Banbury Road to the west, significantly increasing our student accommodation and providing a greater sense of shared space and sustainable living. With a first phase to refurbish seven Victorian villas now in motion and a series of new buildings at planning stage, the project will expand the number of students we can accommodate on campus and enhance our student offering.

But this project's purpose extends further still. These students will add to our College's 'critical mass', enhancing our academic community and supporting interdisciplinary collaboration. The growing body of students living on site at the heart of our College will create a dynamic community alive with interaction, events and activities, with an enhanced sense of belonging to the College community.

## **A single campus approach**

The West Campus is contiguous to Kellogg's current location, enabling us to develop a single campus with all the facilities students want, need and expect close to hand. In time, we will look beyond the current plans to adapt more of the Victorian villas in the area.

We plan for the West Campus to provide more than a hundred bedrooms, some in refurbished villas, others in newly built accommodation. At the same time, we will be increasing the accommodation on our current 'island site' from 75 to over 100, to provide over 200 bedrooms on site. Alongside this accommodation, the College's facilities will be enhanced with a refurbished Dining Hall and an expanded kitchen, new study spaces, and other communal places including a gym, games room, music room and contemplative space.







The adapted Victorian villas will utilise the expertise we have already developed in the refurbishment of heritage accommodation in a conservation area.

### **A sustainable vision aligned with the University's strategy**

Our vision for the College's West Campus is to be a model of sustainable, future-proofed student and academic accommodation. This ambition extends from building materials and energy usage to lighting, ventilation, and interior design. Every aspect of the refurbishments and new buildings will be designed to enhance the wellbeing of their occupants, to preserve the area's special character, and to be as sustainable as possible in adapting, building and operation.

Our plans are aligned with the University's strategic aim of

increasing the number of graduate students at Oxford. Our enhanced campus, our conservation and refurbishment expertise, and our plans for transforming our grounds will all help to deliver this strategy.

The project will cost a total of £25m and, with commitments of over £6m secured, we are now embarking on a major fundraising initiative to make possible this hugely exciting next step in developing and enhancing our facilities.

We are ready to break new ground and support more of the world's best and brightest graduate students at the University of Oxford with our West Campus plans.

If you are interested in supporting Kellogg's West Campus campaign, please contact Sharika Khan, Head of Development & Alumni Relations, at [development@kellogg.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@kellogg.ox.ac.uk).





## What West Campus will bring to Kellogg

- **Modern, accessible study spaces** where learning and living is integrated.
- **An inspirational environment** for research and learning.
- **21st century facilities** that support a vibrant academic community.
- **An environmentally sustainable landscape** that supports biodiversity.
- **An enhanced sense of place** and belonging for the entire College.

## Key design decisions

- **Natural ventilation** – bedrooms and study rooms with natural ventilation; kitchens with windows on two sides to assist cross-ventilation.
- **Opening to green spaces** – community spaces oriented to capture daylight and provide views of nature and greenery.
- **Thermal comfort** – latest technology utilised to manage increasing temperatures and heatwaves.
- **Inclusive design** – dedicated bedrooms and kitchens for students with health conditions or impairments, and a wheelchair-accessible campus.
- **Communal living** – bedrooms arranged around common rooms to promote community, both social and academic; the villas' ground floors will offer welcoming social spaces.
- **Landscaping and biodiversity** – expert ecologist and arborist consulted on enhancing biodiversity throughout West Campus; porous hard landscaping using local or recycled materials where possible.







# Street Voice:

## A DIFFERENT KIND OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

Kellogg's Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation led a groundbreaking project on the future of travel in Oxford. Based on a Citizens' Jury, the project shaped consensus from differing viewpoints using a deliberative form of democracy built around dialogue.

Over the last year, Kellogg College's Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation (GCHU) has been actively engaged with the local community and Oxfordshire County Council, running the "Street Voice" Citizens' Jury. Working in collaboration with colleagues from the Department of Primary Care, GCHU led the Street Voice project to help answer important questions about how people can travel in Oxford in a climate-friendly way that promotes health.

With electoral turnout at an all-time low, local civic leaders are faced with a challenge: how can they engage citizens in a meaningful way? The problem has its roots in a growing mistrust of democratic institutions and increasing scepticism

in participatory processes. One way to address these challenges is through deliberative democratic processes such as Citizens' Assemblies and Citizens' Juries. These methods are characterised by three features: representativeness through a process of sortition, that is, the random selection of participants, stratified to mirror the general population; by deliberation through discussion and learning; and by having a direct link to policy. They are increasingly being employed to address 'wicked' policy issues such as climate change, which was the focus of the Oxford Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change, commissioned by Oxford County Council.

The Street Voice Citizens' Jury was launched in the summer of 2022 with

financial support from the Climate and Health Pump Priming Fund, part of the University's Medical Sciences Division. It aimed to bring together a representative sample of Oxford residents to deliberate on how to reduce the climate and health impacts of travel in Oxford. Their recommendations subsequently fed into local transport policy, which is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council. The overarching question that the jury was asked to consider was 'How can we travel where we need to in Oxford in ways that are good for health and the climate?'.

### The Street Voice process

The Street Voice jurors were selected





through a process of sortition, using random stratified sampling to identify the 16 jurors, who together represented the socio-economic and demographic profile of the city of Oxford. A total of 2,000 households were sent invitations to register their interest to take part in the jury, from which the final 16 were selected.

The jurors met over four consecutive weekends in the summer of 2022, for two full days and two half-days. During that time, they considered a wide variety of evidence and information from 'witnesses' in health, transport and climate change. Speakers ranged from academic scholars presenting the latest research in their field to residents with lived experience of neighbourhoods that have been impacted by Oxford's Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), both those who live within the 'calmed' areas, and those living on the boundary roads where the traffic volumes were not reduced. Local employers, transport providers and campaigners were also engaged as witnesses to present their evidence to the jury.

One of the key features of a Citizens' Jury is deliberation: jurors are given the opportunity to discuss the evidence

presented to them with the speakers and with each other. The Street Voice Citizens' Jury was facilitated by Paul Kahawatte from Navigate using the process of 'convergent facilitation', which is particularly focused on building trust among participants, and working together across differences. The facilitator helped the group to develop creative solutions, and actively engaged with different concerns to address divergent views and to build towards recommendations that everyone could support.

Emerging from the evidence and deliberations came a series of proposals from the jurors to address the overarching question. These proposals were grouped by theme, and covered recommendations for action in public transport, active travel, private vehicles, education and public engagement, and infrastructure and logistics.

From the total of 157 proposals, jurors were asked to consider each one and, using a system of sticky-dots in traffic light colours, to indicate their support for, concern about, or opposition to each proposal. In addition, each juror was given a limited number of gold stars which they

could use to identify the priority proposals that were most important to them. From this prioritisation process, a total of 41 proposals were identified as 'priority recommendations' to take forward to the County Council.

## Outcomes

The Street Voice team presented the priority recommendations in a report to the County Council in September 2022, to which the Cabinet responded in February 2023. There was strong alignment between the Citizens' Jury recommendations and the Council's proposals, as well as some further recommendations which the County said were possible for future consideration.

However, as Cllr Leffman, Leader of the Council, highlighted, the Street Voice process did much more than develop policy recommendations: it demonstrated the potential benefits of representative deliberative processes. She cited the Street Voice evaluation findings that participating in the Citizens' Jury increased the likelihood jurors would be engaged in decisions that affect their community in the future. 'I think this is a process that's well worth continuing with', Cllr Leffman

**'Deliberation is not a research method. It's a way of doing society, being with other people, and making decisions in the world. It's a less adversarial, more equitable way of solving problems.'**

**Sarah Castell, Chief Executive of Involve, a UK charity promoting public participation**

commented, 'not least because it gives people an opportunity to become more involved in the democratic process'.

The value of the process was also highlighted by the jurors themselves, not only in the evaluation but also in the Jurors' Statement that prefaced the report to the Council. In it, they wrote: Our experience proved that, with expert facilitation, a group of people, diverse in life experience, knowledge and understanding, can meet such challenges [of agreeing recommendations]; and that the negotiations along the way can be 'bonding' rather than 'polarising'. In fact, everyone involved found this Citizens' Jury process highly informative and rewarding.

### What next?

GCHU's Street Voice team have been keen to let people know about the Citizens' Jury

process. They have presented the Street Voice project at conferences in Barcelona, Brussels and Oxford, and have run a Street Voice workshop for sixth form students at Cheney School, Oxford, in the context of communicating about climate change, citizenship and democracy.

Next up is to open up discussions with both the County and City Councils about the potential for involving deliberative democracy, Citizens' Assemblies and Citizens' Juries in other local policymaking processes. A half-day workshop at Kellogg College in May brought together policy-makers, academic experts in democracy and citizens who have been involved in deliberative democratic processes. They discussed the role that these processes can play in the complex policy areas that lie at the heart of today's societal challenges.

### The Street Voice research team



**Dr Alison Chisholm**

GCHU Research Associate and British Academy Innovation Fellow, Department of Primary Care



**Dr Juliet Carpenter**

Director of Research, GCHU



**Dr David Howard**

Co-Director GCHU, Associate Professor at Continuing Education Department



**Professor Catherine Pope**

Department of Primary Care



**Jessica Weavers-Medina**

GCHU Centre Administrator



GCHU Public Seminar on the Street Voice Citizens' Jury, Kellogg



# *in pursuit of sustainable living*

Co-directed by Kellogg Fellows, Dr David Howard and Professor Carl Heneghan, the Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation (GCHU) was established at Kellogg in 2019 to explore ways of making cities and towns more environmentally, economically and socially sustainable, and to promote urban environments that support and sustain health and wellbeing.



## Kellogg's Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation continues to achieve significant impact in its interdisciplinary research areas



### What creates healthy cities?

In July 2022, the GCHU and Kellogg College were joined at The House of Lords by The Prince's Foundation, local government, policymakers and practitioners for the launch of the Commission on Creating Healthy Cities report.

The Commission gathered a group of international thought leaders involved in healthcare and urbanisation, and was chaired by Lord Best. He explains 'We brought together leading academics, business people and city experts to explore the links between health and wellbeing, and urban design and planning in cities. By working together, we have made recommendations on the best ways to make cities environmentally, economically and socially sustainable to provide environments that support and sustain the health and wellbeing of their residents.'

Simon Sadinsky, Executive Director of The Prince's Foundation, said: 'Working alongside a range of partners around the world, The Prince's Foundation champions the creation of cities which

are both healthier and more sustainable. We are proud to have worked with the team at Kellogg College to develop and launch the Healthy Cities Toolkit, which aims to support planners and decision-makers who are striving to engender improved wellbeing among those in urban environments.'

A key outcome of the Commission is the Healthy Cities Toolkit, an online resource of evidence summaries for policymakers and practitioners – including local and central government, and all those involved in creating our built environment.

The Commission on Creating Healthy Cities would not have happened without the support of our donors; The McCall MacBain Foundation, Dr Ralph Walter, Halley Liu and The Prince's Foundation. To find out more, visit [www.healthycitiescommission.org](http://www.healthycitiescommission.org)

### Student-led research

The GCHU was awarded the Gold Standard Internship Host award by the University of Oxford for the second successive year having hosted over thirty internship placements to students





GCHU Co-Director & Kellogg Fellow, Professor Carl Heneghan.



Professor Jonathan Michie; Mel Barrett, Nottingham City Council; Lord Best, Social housing leader & Member of the House of Lords; Lord Bilimoria, Member of the House of Lords & Kellogg Bynum Tudor Fellow.

from a wide range of backgrounds and degree programmes. Through the Careers Service's micro-internship programme the Centre frequently hosts students on one-week placements to work as research analysts on a variety of urban health topics. Recent research topics include the health and wellbeing benefits of green and blue infrastructure, key urban challenges and their unequal impact on health, retrofitting, brownfield redevelopment, and the impact of household temperatures on health and wellbeing. As well as conducting research reviews, interns have published blogs, reports and have presented their findings at seminars.

## Community engagement

As well as the Street Voice Citizens' Jury which you can read about on page 27, the GCHU has hosted many community-focused engagement events most notably the GCHU Public Seminar series in partnership with The Prince's Foundation. These twice-termly events

bring together a range of practitioners, academics, students, local government representatives and members of the public interested in cities and city-living. Recent topics of discussion include 'Retrofitting and designing healthy built environments: how can buildings help our health?', 'Can Citizens' Juries help to address urban challenges?', 'Why adapt our homes to rising temperatures?' and 'Systems change: how can cities accelerate progress towards net-zero?'. All of these seminars are recorded and uploaded to the GCHU website where an archive of the full series can be viewed.

The GCHU also collaborated with the Oxfordshire Play Association, and Oxford Brookes University as part of the University of Oxford's 'Science Together' programme that aimed to bring researchers at both Universities together with local community groups in and around the city. The idea was to put the Universities' research skills at the disposal of communities, to address key challenges identified by grassroots

community groups. This collaboration reviewed and synthesised recent evidence on the importance of play for the health and wellbeing of children, young people, their families and the wider community within Oxfordshire. A report was produced and circulated to local stakeholders and in particular, local councils to make the case for increasing funding for play throughout the county.

## How to get involved

Everyone is welcome to come along to the twice-termly public seminars. Details can be found on the GCHU website.

You can also sign up to the GCHU's mailing list via [www.gchu.org.uk](http://www.gchu.org.uk)

Students are welcome to apply for one of the Centre's regular micro-internships, or the month-long summer internships, via the University's Careers Service. The GCHU team are always keen to hear from alumni who may wish to get involved.

# ALUMNI INTERVIEW

Degree course:

DPhil in English Local History

Matriculation year: 1996

Year of graduation: 2003

## Kathy Davies

Historic Buildings Consultant



### What prompted you to choose Kellogg?

At a conference many years ago I was sitting next to Emeritus Fellow Malcolm Airs one breakfast, talking about secular wall paintings and how I'd love to research these, although I didn't know how I could do this whilst working full time. He suggested I apply to Oxford, as they had just started a part-time DPhil programme, and that Kellogg could offer serious support for students continuing to work whilst studying part time. He was proved right.

### What inspired you to choose your degree programme?

In my work in building conservation, I kept discovering wall paintings but couldn't find any information on their significance. They

were generally dismissed as inferior folk art. Yet I knew there had to be more to it than that.

### What is your best memory from your time at Kellogg?

Being welcomed with open arms by Vincent Strudwick (one of Kellogg's earliest Fellows and lifelong supporter) at Coming Up dinner. He knew my name and what I was studying and immediately made me feel at home. That someone had bothered to do that made a profound impression on me.

### What have you been doing since graduation?

I worked for several years at English Heritage/Historic England advising on all aspects of the historic environment. I now

undertake similar work as a consultant, primarily in the public sector, continuing to advise Historic England and other public sector bodies as well as private home owners. I have continued my research on wall paintings and am about to publish more work on this subject. In addition, I continue to support a project run by ex-Kellogg student Bindu Vinodhan in India, creating employment and giving a voice to tribal women in marginalised rural communities (featured on page 40).

### How do you feel your time at Kellogg has helped you after graduation?

Being a member of the College has helped me keep in touch with both Fellows and students with shared interests, and it has undoubtedly helped in promoting my professional work.

### What does the future hold for you?

I have continued to research secular wall paintings throughout the country and have amassed a huge amount of information. This needs disseminating for wider discussion and writing up. This is my next priority.

### Tell us something surprising about yourself that people may not know

I love snorkelling on coral reefs.

### Any advice for current students?

It's obviously not easy having a full-time job and fitting in research at the same time, including the travel to Oxford from Shropshire, but it was definitely worth it. It transformed my career.



In early 2023, Carla Verónica Fuenteslópez (MSc Nanotechnology for Medicine and Health Care, 2018), and Bastiaan van Dalen (MSc Applied Landscape Archaeology, 2018), visited the spectacular island of Príncipe, off the coast of West Africa, to learn lessons from its environmental history.



# Príncipe past and present

São Tomé & Príncipe (STP) have never been connected to mainland Africa, and their relative isolation has allowed the evolution of endemic species – species that are found nowhere else – much like on the Galapagos islands, which were the basis of Darwin's Theory of Evolution. Despite their rich and unique biodiversity, São Tomé & Príncipe remain relatively understudied – especially the smaller island of Príncipe. Key knowledge gaps remain about the effect of early human settlement and activity on the islands' native biodiversity.

STP poses an interesting case study, as the islands are thought to have been uninhabited until relatively recently. Human settlement likely only started in the late 15th century, when the islands were discovered by the Portuguese. Human arrival on islands can significantly change ecosystems. Although we know that a large part of the vegetation and agricultural crops grown extensively on Príncipe were brought from other parts of the world, there is no quantitative information on the island's vegetation before its human colonisation. We therefore do

not know how human-mediated species introductions have changed these earlier ecosystems. But if we can reconstruct ecosystems of the past, we may be able to find out how human colonisation and settlement influenced biodiversity through time – which itself may provide lessons relevant for contemporary environmental management.

## Our research

To answer these questions, we collected sediment cores from lagoas (or lagunas) on Príncipe. We would stand on a raft –



so as to not disturb the sediment below us – and carefully lower a sediment corer into the water. Once the fieldwork period was complete, we began to analyse these sediment core samples. Amongst other things, we will be checking for the presence of fossil pollen which can tell us something about the plant species present at different points in time. Combined with botanical surveys, these will allow us to build a picture of the environment through time by studying changes in vegetation.

We also interviewed local people to understand environmental stewardship

practices and empirical environmental knowledge, as well as oral histories. These interviews will form the input for a short documentary which aims to amplify local voices.

### **Our personal experiences**

We were on Príncipe for a few weeks and it was a very intense but incredibly rewarding experience. In the first few days, we focused on preparing all the equipment and scouting the lagoas for the surveys. The first days were filled with designing, prototyping and testing (and

several iterations of these!). We wanted to reuse materials discarded by local establishments as much as possible, with the idea of generating minimal waste from our expedition. For example, the raft we used for the sediment coring was built using wooden planks that were left over from hotel furniture.

Once we started conducting the biodiversity surveys and the sediment coring, we all took on roles that were the best match for us. For instance, one group, led by Carla, conducted the depth measurement surveys of the lagoas (all





that kayaking and rowing experience came in very handy!); another, led by Bastiaan, conducted the sediment coring. Another team took measurements of selected plants while Carla collected voucher samples. These samples were then processed and pressed for long-term preservation, and Carla is now working on finishing the herbarium.

### **Some major challenges**

Working on a type of research that is the first of its kind on the island comes with some unique logistical challenges. To

identify appropriate research locations, we needed to conduct scoping trips and site surveys to inform our research activities. Because of the nature of the research, some of these locations were quite remote and not easily accessible, which could be challenging with the large amount of equipment we brought with us.

### **The impact of our research**

Biodiversity is under pressure globally from rapid environmental changes. Because of their size and isolation, biodiversity on smaller island nations like STP may be

particularly vulnerable to such changes. These include the effects of climate change, such as sea level rise, extreme weather and reduced crop yields, but also direct human activities resulting in the degradation or conversion of ecosystems. Better knowledge of the unique biodiversity that the islands host will facilitate education and conservation of these unique ecosystems.

We are hoping that the data collected during the expedition will provide new insights into environmental change and human-environment interactions,









past and present. We are also working towards a longer term multi-disciplinary collaboration, with a second fieldwork season in early development. Through our documentary we further aim to share the story of Príncipe with the world and inspire others to work towards the sustainable stewardship of their own local environments.

### Funding and support

We are very grateful for the support of a range of partners and collaborators, including the University of Oxford, the

Explorers Club Rolex Grant, the SWWDTP, the Harvard Travellers Club, and St Hugh's College. In the field, the Hotel Belo Monte and Forever Príncipe gave extremely generous in-kind support with logistics, accommodation and the use of a

laboratory space, as part of their ongoing research support activities.

The expedition can be followed via **[principepastandpresent.com](http://principepastandpresent.com)** as well as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

**'We are hoping that the data collected during the expedition will provide new insights into environmental change and human-environment interactions, past and present'**

# ALUMNI INTERVIEW

## Emily Petek-Sargeant Senior Marketer



### What prompted you to choose Kellogg?

I chose Kellogg because it was a community of post-graduates and had the focus on part-time study. I was conscious that as I was working full time, a support network of mature graduates who also had careers or were retired was going to be quite important to me. I found that to be very beneficial. Kellogg was also the base for the MSt Literature and Arts programme, and the course dinners and tutors were also based at Kellogg.

### What inspired you to choose your degree programme?

The MSt Literature and Arts programme supported my career ambitions. I was really interested in the course as it was very broad. I wanted to continue on with the literature from my undergraduate programme at the University of York. It was a fabulous course – I really enjoyed it!

### What is your best memory from your time at Kellogg?

The one that comes to mind is a course dinner that we had at Kellogg. We had a couple of really talented musicians in the cohort at Kellogg, and they ran a concert for us after dinner – that was a particularly

lovely memory! I had a great time at Kellogg, and I loved Oxford. A lot of happy memories!

### What have you been doing since graduation?

My first experience after leaving Kellogg was at Dyson, where I was for about seven years. I started in 2015, and I was lucky to experience a lot of different roles through the business. I worked in Paris for 18 months, Cologne for nearly two years and in global roles, most recently in leading the media strategy and planning for the company.

In October I left for a new opportunity at Pandora, where I am head of the Go To market for UK and Ireland which covers a few different areas. It is a very varied role in a very different industry to what I was used to at Dyson, but an incredibly interesting company and great team – I am really enjoying it so far.

### How do you feel your time at Kellogg has helped you after graduation?

The very obvious answer was I found my role at Dyson through a careers fair run by the University. In regards to Kellogg specifically, I picked up a lot of skills attending formal dinners! I found these very useful in my career beyond my degree. You could be sat next to somebody who has had a really interesting life before coming to college. Being thrown into a situation where you don't know anyone but have to mix and network was a great skill to have in my career and moving internationally.

The tutors were incredibly supportive. One of my former tutors, current Senior Tutor, Dr Sandie Byrne, encouraged me to submit my thesis for a conference at the

Degree course:

MSt Literature and Arts

Matriculation year: 2013

Year of graduation: 2015

University of York. It was for the Difficult Women Conference and I presented my thesis there. It was an amazing experience which I wouldn't have had without the College.

### What does the future hold for you?

I would love to attend more events at Kellogg! I have attended a few Gaudy dinners since graduating and I would like to do that more. I am always keen to keep learning. I am currently doing a night course in Slovenian through UCL, and would love to continue to explore and travel.

### Tell us something surprising about yourself that people may not know

During my time at Kellogg, I competed with the University's Dance Sport Team. I have two half blues (unfortunately didn't make my full blues), competing at a national level with the University. Looking back on it, I wonder how I managed it. We used to train 10 hours a week, I was working full time and doing my degree. It was a very busy time but a wonderful experience and I'm still really close friends with quite a few people on the team.

### Any advice for current students?

Really enjoy all that the University has to offer, not just academically. Don't forget the many societies and take the time to try something new. Also think about the resources available to you, such as the careers service. There is so much that the University has to offer – take advantage of that while you are there.

Lean on your cohort for support. We had a Facebook group that was really helpful, especially while writing essays, and enabled us to keep in contact afterwards. That network is really important, especially on a part-time course.



# CHANGING THE WORLD

## one weave at a time

In the first issue of Connect, Bindu Vinodhan told us how her MSc in Education (2011) at Kellogg led to her work with the women weavers of Odisha, India – some of the country's most marginalised people. Now she reports on the inspiring progress she has witnessed since then.



Five years ago when I stepped into a tiny village called Chuliaposi, located in the north eastern Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, it seemed like one of the most daunting jobs that I had ever taken on. The initial year and a half was spent building trust amongst people who had only known severe marginalisation, disrespect and acute poverty all their lives. But once trust was established and I became an integral part of the community, we set up our first centre in a livestock shed donated by one of the villagers and 21 women set forth on a journey to change their destiny. Bravely facing the backlash

from the community and dispelling all the myths which say that women can't weave, the women learnt to do just that, and slowly started earning a regular salary. For the first time in their lives they became breadwinners for the family and the children in their homes had begun to eat more than one meal a day.

And then Covid happened and suddenly, like the rest of the world, our world changed too. Being in a very remote part of the country, the village was untouched by the virus, but what truly impacted them was the socio-economic situation. In the villages that we operate in, more than 55% of the male population are migrant labourers who travel to other parts of the country and are engaged in manual labour. With lockdown happening, all industries and construction was shut down and the country saw millions of labourers from these tribal areas returning to the villages. Every tribal village in our vicinity experienced the sudden influx of the menfolk who had lost their jobs, with little hope of livelihood and no access to any resources. The first few weeks of the lockdown were the darkest days in our journey, when several households were hit with a shortage of food. Hunger became the new reality. That was when we knew that we had to move quickly and take on this super-colossal challenge.



## Tackling livelihood and hunger at once

Two issues needed to be tackled with extreme haste: livelihood and hunger. Not only was the challenge urgent, but dealing with the issue on such a large scale was something we had neither envisaged nor experienced before.

The solution was to create common facility centres where women could come in to learn weaving, their lost traditional craft. The stipends earned during training and the salaries thereafter would help us take care of the livelihood issue for the women. Each centre took anything between three and four months to construct, and both the men and the

women in the village were engaged in the construction work, working together to build their own learning centres. We also brought in truckloads of food and groceries by partnering with other NGOs, which we distributed in the villages to tide over the first few months of the pandemic.

Once the centres were built, the stipends took care of most of the unemployment issues in the first two villages in which we were operational. However, word soon got around and large groups of villagers from further afield began to travel to our sites, some of them coming several miles by foot to request that we open new centres for them.

Listening to their stories and realising the

plight they were in, it became increasingly difficult for us to restrict our operations to just two centres. We had no choice but to look for funding and begin these projects as soon as possible. These were tough times, but as I looked at the hundreds of faces around me I realised that hope can move mountains. The villagers as well as my team in these times of adversity looked more determined than ever before. Funding was tough as industries were also facing crisis and CSR budgets were dwindling. I had to rely upon my corporate contacts, and I kept narrating our story to each one of them. It was at this point that one of the corporate clients with whom I had established a close professional





relationship came in and asked if we would make eco-friendly bags. They supported us with the grants we needed to set up a fully fledged bag production unit and that fixed order gave us the confidence to increase our operations rapidly.

We've now done this with the support of several good friends from the corporate world and with grants from government schemes. In the last three years we have grown from one village with 21 women to 567 women across 15 villages.

### Continuous learning drives rapid progress

The women have been trained to weave in cohorts, supporting each other by sharing skills. At the same time, this provides the moral support the women need to continue learning, irrespective of the societal pressures they face. The first set of cohorts have now gained high skill levels and have started weaving intricate motifs

that were deemed impossible for weavers – let alone women weavers – to achieve in such a short time.

Many reasons contributed to this rapid progress. Apart from the self-confidence that came from being gainfully employed and being able to support their families, other interventions proved useful. The training plans were continuously tweaked to reduce the learning curve and derive the optimum mix of theory and practical loom work. The looms that were traditionally meant for men had to be redesigned with minor modifications and innovations to make them more women-friendly and take away the drudgery from the craft. The midday meal, cooked in a central kitchen and then dropped off at all the centres, meant that the women were getting one big nutritious meal every day, which vastly ameliorated the malnutrition situation and made the women physically stronger to handle the looms.

During Covid hundreds of children in the rural villages had lost out on almost two years of education. None of the families had access to online learning so we started a primary education programme for the children in the villages we operated in. These digital classrooms opened up the world for the children and they enthusiastically lapped up the curriculum, consisting of maths, language, sciences and folk culture. The midday meal was extended to the children too, and soon our centres saw more than 150 children coming in every day to learn, play, dance, sing and have a nutritious meal before they left for home.

All of these interventions lend stickability to our livelihood programme, helping these dedicated women to stick around for 12 to 18 months until they have learnt the niche skills of intricate weaving.

Since December 2021 we have gone into full-on production, with more than 170





women currently engaged in creating two kinds of products. The first is the revival of motifs more than 100 years old, in the form of sarees, stoles and scarves, that are retailed online. The second are corporate gifts for businesses that have the tribal motifs and stories woven onto them, bulk orders for which commenced in June 2022.

Our plans for the next 12 to 18 months are to establish the next set of women leaders who will independently run each of these centres. Our prototype for a sustainable livelihood that is supported by nutritional and educational intervention has seen success multiple times over in the process of rapidly setting up these 15 centres. There are hundreds of craft villages that need this kind of help and we are hoping that we should be able to reach out to as many as we can over the next few years.

### A robust, replicable model

Our three-pronged approach of sustainable community development through craft entrepreneurship is a model that can be replicated at scale, and we are now seeking partnerships and grants to enable us to create the large scale impact that we envision. The next phase of our journey will also see the documentation and publication of our stories. These are stories of courage, of resilience, of change, of learning and reviving craft that truly is sustainable and preserves 'Hasa', our 'Mother Earth'.

In the words Mauna Dhvani, Mauna means silence and Dhvani means sound. When we at the Mauna Dhvani Foundation embarked on this journey, the goal was to help women from the tribal villages of north-eastern Odisha move from the muffled silences of the past 100 years to finding their voice and their rightful place in the world. Today I realise how

short-sighted I was when I set out on this journey. Over the last five years I have been humbled by the intrinsic wisdom and the talent of this vibrant community of women artisans who, with their shared passion, are now using their weaves to spread the message of sustainable living and in that process not only transforming themselves but taking a bold step in transforming the industry.

Yes, in their own way, they are changing the world, one weave at a time.

**I would like to thank Kathy and Chris Davies, respectively Visiting and Emeritus Fellows of Kellogg College, for their continued enthusiasm and support for our project, coming to visit us a number of times in Chuliaposi, and helping to spread the word of the Mauna Dhvani Foundation beyond Odisha.**



## Meet Jessie Weavers-Medina, Centre Administrator for the Global Centre on Healthcare & Urbanisation (GCHU)

### Tell us a bit about Kellogg's GCHU and your role there

The GCHU was established to undertake research to make urban centres environmentally, economically and socially sustainable, and to provide an environment that supports and sustains health and wellbeing. I joined the team as the Centre Administrator in 2021 after five years of working at the University in various roles relating to governance and policy.

I am responsible for all administrative functions including finance, personnel, governance, event organising, website management, communications, research grant management, internship placements and office management; liaising closely with many of the administrative teams at Kellogg.

### Whilst working for the Centre, you're also studying. How do you balance the two?

In September 2021, I commenced a three-year degree course through a Business Management Degree Apprenticeship as part of the 'Work Learn Develop' programme at the University. I attend several hours of lectures every Tuesday and then spend much of my evenings and weekends studying at home or in the library.

It's been a great experience so far and I am most grateful to have received the College's full support throughout. Whilst working full-time alongside studying can feel quite overwhelming at times, a significant benefit is that I am able to immediately gain real-life experience from applying taught theory directly into my work.

### You administer the Centre's micro-internships. Can you explain more about these?

The micro-internship programme is organised by the University's Careers Service and offers students termly opportunities to spend a week with an organisation to complete a particular project. The GCHU has hosted over 30 interns who have worked on a wide-range of research projects including healthy cities, fuel-poverty, zero-carbon homes, walkable neighbourhoods, preventable deaths in cities and commuting behaviour.

The Centre's interdisciplinary research allows us to be joined by students across all levels and fields providing fantastically diverse perspectives and approaches. As well as conducting research, interns have published blogs on our website, contributed to The Prince's Foundation publications, submitted journal publications, presented at seminars and participated in gathering primary research. Being awarded the Gold Standard Internship Host Award for both years we have participated in the programme has been a great achievement for all of us at the Centre.

### What other exciting projects will the GCHU be working on this year?

A consistent highlight of my schedule is organising the GCHU Public Seminar series in partnership with The Prince's Foundation. Hosting events that produce such interesting and engaging debate between the public, academics and practitioners is a great pleasure, particularly when witnessing the germination of research and collaborative ideas that only occur through the diversity

of the attendees. We also have several research grants going through various stages of review currently so the 2023-24 academic year is set to be very busy indeed!

### **What do you enjoy most about working for Kellogg and the Centre?**

Kellogg has such a friendly and diverse community, it's a real pleasure to sit down at lunch with students and academics from all over the world and have fascinating conversations. Whether it's about a particularly niche field of study, sharing and developing research ideas, or learning about each other's backgrounds and interests, there's always something to talk about and so many people to talk to! I'm certainly doing better at pub quizzes since I started working here!

### **Tell us something about you that we don't already know**

I have always been interested in governance at a community level. I currently sit on the Board of the Oxford United Supporters Trust and I am a Governor at Abingdon and Witney College. Since joining the GCHU, I've become increasingly conscious of the need for sustainability-focused interventions and have now completely switched my primary mode of transport to cycling which has been really enjoyable. I've met wonderful people at cycling events and it's been very beneficial for both my physical and mental health.





## READING LIST:

# LATEST BOOKS BY KELLOGG FELLOWS

From climate solutions to English Civil Wars, from poetry to fiction, our Fellows have written a fascinating range of recent publications.



**Dr Shreya Atrey, Official Fellow**

***Exponential Inequalities***

Editor with Sandra Fredman,  
Oxford University Press 2023

A thoughtful and critical account exploring the operation of equality and discrimination law in times of crisis.

**Richard Baker,  
Junior Research Fellow**

***Brokenwire: Wireless Disruption of CCS  
Electric Vehicle Charging***

Co-author with Sebastian Köhler, Richard Baker, Martin Strohmeier and Ivan Martinovic, NDSS 2023

A paper highlighting the vulnerabilities of electric vehicles to a potential cybersecurity attack that stops them from charging, including a range of mitigation techniques that could be deployed to limit the impact.

**Professor Kadriye Bakirci,  
Visiting Fellow**

***Gender Equality 2022 (Turkey): How are  
EU rules transposed into national law?***

Publications Office of the European  
Commission 2022

***Restatement of Labour Law Dismissal  
Protection in Europe: Volume III:  
Dismissal Protection (Turkey)***

Chapter author. Edited by Bernd Waas,  
Bloomsbury 2023

***Legal Aid as an Economic and Social  
Right for Women's Equal Access to  
Justice (in Turkish)***

Issue 47 of Mülkiye Magazine 2023

***Restrictions on the Right to Strike in  
Europe (Turkey)***

Chapter author. Edited by Anne Davies,  
International Journal of Comparative  
Labour Law & Industrial Relations, Kluwer  
Law 2024

A range of publications covering a variety of topics on Turkish law within the context of Europe.

**Dr Anna Beer, Visiting Fellow**

***Eve Bites Back***

Blackstone Publishing 2022

Investigating the lives and achievements of eight women writers, Anna Beer uncovers a startling and unconventional history of literature. Warned not to write – and certainly not to bite – these women put pen to paper anyway and wrote themselves into history.

**Ben Bolgar, Visiting Fellow & Dr  
David Howard, Official Fellow**

***Building Towards Net Zero Carbon Homes***

Global Centre on Healthcare &  
Urbanisation 2022

A report compiling the evidence on building towards net zero carbon homes to make the strong case for creating Regional Building Hubs in order to scale up low-carbon legacy projects.

**Dr Christian Brand,  
Ordinary Fellow**

***Greta Thunberg's The Climate Book: The  
Facts and The Solutions***

Co-author of chapter 4.17 with Jillian Anable. Penguin Press 2023.

Produced in partnership with over 100 experts, this essential volume broadens knowledge and awareness of the environmental crisis. Dr Brand's co-authored chapter explores how to decarbonise transport.

**Dr Sandie Byrne, Official Fellow**

***Tony Harrison and the Classics***

Oxford University Press 2022

Provides new insights into Tony Harrison's influences, methods and impact from a distinguished line up of international contributors.

***A History of World War One Poetry***

Chapter author. Edited by Jane Potter,  
Cambridge University Press 2023

An examination of popular and literary, ephemeral and enduring poems that the cataclysm of 1914-1918 inspired. Dr Byrne's chapter: 'Soundscapes'.

**Dr Patricia Canelas,  
Ordinary Fellow**

***Governmentalities of Land Value Capture  
in Urban Redevelopment***

Co-author with Luise Noring, from 'Land  
Use Policy': vol 122, Elsevier 2022

A paper that argues that land value increment, central to Land Value Capture (LVC) instruments, offers limited insight into accessing the success of, or 'best practices' in LVC based redevelopment.

***Hard, soft and thin governance spaces in  
land use change (pp. 725-743)***

Co-author with Ben Clifford, Jessica Ferm & Nicola Livingston, from 'European  
Planning Studies': vol 30, issue 4,  
Routledge 2022

A paper exploring the impact of 'hard, soft and thin' governance spaces on housing delivery and place-making, in governing office-to-residential conversions in England, Scotland and the Netherlands.





**Dr Leah Clark, Official Fellow**  
*Courtly Mediators: Transcultural Objects between Renaissance Italy and the Islamic World*

**Cambridge University Press 2023**  
 Courtly Mediators examines Italian Renaissance collecting practices from the perspective of trade, diplomacy and global encounters.

**Professor Robin Cohen, Senior Research Fellow**  
*Global Diasporas: An introduction*  
**Routledge 2022**

This latest edition celebrates the book's 25th-anniversary adding two new chapters on incipient diasporas and diaspora engagement.

**Dr Sarah Frodsham, Ordinary Fellow**  
*Capturing the Nature of Teacher and Learner Agency Demonstrating Creativity: Ethical issues and resolutions*  
 Co-author with Debra McGregor, **Educational Sciences, MDPI 2022**  
*Learning Science Through Drama*  
 Chapter co-author with Debra McGregor. Edited by Debra McGregor & Dayle Anderson, **Springer 2022**

*Ethical Dilemmas in Educational Research*  
 Chapter co-author with Debra McGregor & Mary Wild. Edited by Carol Brown & Mary Wild, **Oxford University Press 2023**

A range of books and an article focussing on ethical dilemmas within educational research and practices, and the role drama has to play.

**Dr Stefano Gogioso, Ordinary Fellow**  
*Quantum in Pictures*  
 Co-author with Bob Coecke, **Cambridge Quantum 2023**

This simple, friendly and novel book explains the magical world of quantum theory through pictures for amateurs and specialists alike.

**Gregory Hadley, Visiting Fellow**  
*The Routledge Handbook of Materials Development for Language Teaching (Chapter 11)*  
 Co-author with Hiromi Hadley, **Routledge 2022**  
 An historical overview of the development of language teaching materials, critical discussion of core issues and an assessment of future directions.

*Using Repertory Grids as a Tool for Mixed Methods Research*  
 Co-author with Myles Grogan, **Sage Journals 2022**

This paper critically assesses the potential contributions of the repertory grid technique when used in mixed methods research.

**Dr Hazel Hagger, Emeritus Fellow**  
*International Encyclopaedia of Education, Vol 5 (pp: 83-92)*  
 Co-author with Trevor Mutton, Katherine Burn. Editors Rob Tierney, Fazal Rizvi, Kadriye Ercikan, **Elsevier 2023**  
 Dr Hazel Hagger's chapter: 'Can initial teacher education partnerships maintain their epistemological and pedagogical underpinnings in light of market-driven reforms? The case in England'.

**Dr Jonathan Healey, Official Fellow**  
*The Blazing World: A New History of Revolutionary England*  
**Bloomsbury 2023**  
 A major new history of England's turbulent seventeenth century and how it marked the birth of a new world.



**Dr Melissa Highton,  
Visiting Fellow**

*Handbook of Digital Higher Education*  
(pp. 351-362)

*Edited by Rhona Sharpe, Sue Bennett  
& Tünde Varga-Atkin, Edward Elgar  
Publishing 2022*

Dr Highton's chapter: 'The importance of diversity and digital leadership in education: a feminist perspective from higher education.'

*Dangerous Women: Fifty reflections on  
women, power and identity*

*Edited by Jo Shaw, Ben Fletcher-Watson  
& Abrisham Ahmadzadeh, Unbound  
Publishing 2022*

Dr Highton's chapter: 'Wikipedia's Women Problem'.

**Professor Andrew Hopper,  
Official Fellow & Dr Ismini Pells,  
Ordinary Fellow**

*Civil War Petitions website:*  
[www.civilwarpetitions.ac.uk](http://www.civilwarpetitions.ac.uk)

*Arts & Humanities Research Council*

The 'Conflict, Welfare and Memory' project sets out to reveal the human costs of the English Civil Wars by investigating how wounded soldiers, war widows and other bereaved family members petitioned for financial relief.

**Podcast series: *The World Turned  
Upside Down***

*Arts & Humanities Research Council*

A podcast series uncovering the everyday experiences of ordinary men and women who lived through the English Civil Wars. Available on Spotify and Apple Music.

**Dr Bige Kahraman, Official Fellow**  
*ES risks and Shareholder Voice*

*Co-author with Michelle Lowry, Review of  
Financial Studies 2023*

A paper examining whether shareholder votes in environmental and social (ES) proposals are informative about firms' ES risks.

**Dr Gorgi Krlev, Visiting Fellow**  
*Social Economy Science*

*Oxford University Press 2023*

A comprehensive treatment and foresight of how new developments in the Social Economy can re-shape the economy and make society more resilient.

**Professor John Marriott,  
Visiting Fellow**

*History: An Introduction to Theory,  
Method and Practice (3rd edition)*

*Co-author with Peter Claus, Routledge  
2023*

This accessible book provides an introduction to a wide range of historical perspectives from historiography itself through to literature, sociology, geography and anthropology. An essential resource for students of historical theory and method working.

**Katherine Maxwell,  
Visiting Fellow**

*Governance Networks for Sustainable  
Cities: Connecting Theory and Practice  
in Europe*

*Routledge 2023*

A must read for urban governance and sustainability academics and practitioners, this book explores the effectiveness of governance networks on the design and implementation of sustainability strategies.

*COP 27: Three Outcomes for  
Healthy Cities*

*Global Centre on Healthcare &  
Urbanisation 2022*

A paper summarising the key findings from COP27 discussions exploring what these mean for developing 'Healthy Cities'.





**Professor Ian Menter,  
Emeritus Fellow**

*The Palgrave Handbook of Teacher Education in Central and Eastern Europe*  
Editor with Marta Kowalczyk-Waledziak, Roza A. Valeeva, Marija Sablić, Palgrave Macmillan 2023

Handbook providing a comprehensive, scholarly overview of teacher education in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), since the fall of communism in 1989.

*The Palgrave Handbook of Teacher Education Research*  
Palgrave Macmillan 2023

A handbook presenting an even-handed and up-to-date review of the field founded on policy, practice and research.

**Dr David Mills, Official Fellow**  
*Who Counts? Ghanaian Academic Publishing and Global Science*  
Co-author with Patricia Kingori, Abigail Branford, Samuel T. Chatio, Natasha Robinson & Paulina Tindana, African Minds 2023

An important Africa-centred analysis of Anglophone academic publishing on the continent and its relationship to global science.

**Dr Clare Morgan, Official Fellow**  
*Scar Tissue & An Affair of the Heart*  
Seren 2022

Two collections of lyrical, evocative and searching stories, *Scar Tissue* and *An Affair of the Heart*, offer a fresh perspective on the nature of existence in all its transient vulnerability.

**Dr Ismini Pells, Ordinary Fellow**  
*One Hundred Years of Army Historical Research* (pp. 45-69)  
Edited by Andrew Bamford, Helion 2023

Dr Pells' chapter: John Woodward, the British Civil Wars and the History of the British Army.

*Combat Stress in Pre-Modern Europe* (pp. 171-98)  
Edited by Owen Ress, Kathryn Hurlock & Jason Crowley, Palgrave Macmillan 2022

Dr Pells' chapter: Understandings of adversity and resilience amongst women and children during the seventeenth-century British Civil Wars.

**Dr Annette Plüddemann, Ordinary Fellow & Professor Carl Heneghan, Official Fellow**  
*Transmission of SARs-CoV-2*  
Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine  
A series of scientific articles on the transmission dynamics of SARS-CoV-2.

**Dr Alistair Ross, Official Fellow**  
*Sigmund Freud: A Reference Guide to His Life and Works.*  
Rowman & Littlefield 2022

A biographical introduction to Freud, his concepts, and key writings, alongside the many other people that made psychoanalysis successful, written in an accessible A-Z format.

**Professor Chris Rowley, Visiting Fellow**  
*Digitalization & Asia-Pacific Business Models: At the Crossroads of Multiple Cultures, Innovation & Value Creation*  
Editor with Tachia Chin, Shouyang Wang, Routledge 2023

*War on Family Property Rights: Rethinking Governance Reforms for the South Korean Chaebol*  
Editor with Ingyu Oh, Yong Wook Jun, Routledge 2023

*Trends in Asia Pacific Business & Management Research: Relevance & Use of Literature Review*  
Editor with Justin Paul, Routledge 2022

*Changing Face of E-commerce in Asia*  
Editor with Abhishek Behl, Pankaj Dutta & Pratima Sheorey, World Scientific Publishing 2022



**Corporate Performance & Managerial Ties in China: Key Theories, Dimensions & Directions**

**Editor with Ingyu Oh, Routledge 2022**

A range of analyses and insights of changing business practices in East Asia, including stories of e-commerce companies in Asia and how they have contributed to society.

**Dr Trevor Rowley, Emeritus Fellow**

**Landscapes of the Norman Conquest Pen and Sword 2022**

An in-depth look into the impact of the Norman Conquest with insights into the fundamental shaping of towns such as Canterbury, Norwich and Lincoln.

**An Archaeological Study of the Bayeux Tapestry, the Landscapes, Buildings and Places**

**Pen and Sword 2022**

A unique re-examination of this famous work, analysing the tapestry through the landscapes, buildings and structures shown, while comparing them to the landscapes which can be seen today.

**Dr Elizaveta Semenova, Junior Research Fellow**  
**Global Disparities in SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Surveillance**

**Nature Communications 2022**

**Assessment of COVID-19 as the Underlying Cause of Death Among Children and Young People Aged 0 to 19 Years in the US**

**Co-author with Seth Flaxman & Charles Whittaker, JAMA Network 2023**

Two assessments to determine whether COVID-19 is a leading cause of death in under 19 year olds in the US, and to test the impact of sequencing intensity and turnaround times on SARS-CoV-2 detection.

**Dr Przemysław Wałęga, Junior Research Fellow**

**Finite Materialisability of Datalog Programs with Metric Temporal Operators**

**Co-author with Michał Zawidzki & Bernardo Cuenca Grau, Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research 2023**

This paper explores finitely materialisable DatalogMTL programs, for which forward chaining reasoning is guaranteed to terminate.

**Stream Reasoning with DatalogMTL**

**Co-author with Bernardo Cuenca Grau, Mark Kaminski & Dingmin Wang, Journal of Web Semantics, Elsevier 2023**

A study exploring stream reasoning in DatalogMTL – an extension of Datalog with metric temporal operators.









# Amal Al Gergawi: climate quitters and non-linear careers

Amal Al Gergawi arrived at Oxford with a focus on forced displacement. After being immersed in a torrent of conversations and ideas, she left two years later to dive into an entirely new field – marine policy and conservation.

One idea rapidly follows another as Amal Al Gergawi speaks. She fizzles with a restless energy which drives her curiosity into new areas.

Before she reached Oxford, Amal was an undergraduate student at New York University (NYU) Abu Dhabi, majoring in Social Research and Public Policy with a concentration in Economics. She quickly became interested in improving the well-being of forced migrants in refugee camps and conflict zones, and began using data from New York University's Global TIES for Children research centre to examine the relationship between mobility and mental health among displaced children in Niger. But she recognised she needed to expand her intellectual toolkit.

'It became clear to me that I wanted a richer understanding of this field,' she recalls. 'Then my friend said to me, 'Why don't you apply for a Rhodes Scholarship?' I was under the impression that I wasn't qualified. Surely I needed more under my belt to apply?'

But she was wrong, won a scholarship, and came to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. In her first year she worked towards an MSc in Comparative and International Education (2020) before moving on to an MSc in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation (2021) at Kellogg. She started seeing connections to other issues she cared about. 'The notion of climate refugees kept popping up,' she says. 'As I gained a better understanding of how the climate crisis impacted vulnerable people, I began to wonder if I should shift careers.' Her curiosity began turning towards intellectual gaps she saw in marine science, including the connections between social problems and environmental issues.

## Lightbulb moments

What made her start questioning her direction? 'At Oxford there are these pockets of discourse happening all over the city. You're constantly thinking about the impact of your work and the consequences





that direction may have for your future and the world. I definitely had a few lightbulb moments, but it came gradually.'

Amal noticed that some academic research had little value to the vulnerable communities studied. 'I saw that academia doesn't always have the institutional incentives to give back to the communities that are at the heart of their research, or to ensure power dynamics in those interactions are balanced.'

While gaining a training in designing, evaluating and implementing social interventions, Amal volunteered her time to co-author a feasibility report with the Rhodes Environment and Climate Hub. The report explored how satellites monitoring methane emissions could be used to identify opportunities for strategic climate litigation in the Global South.

### Non-linear career paths

Around this time, she came across more new ideas. 'Climate quitters,' she says, 'are a growing number of people who are leaving their jobs to combat climate change.' She also met several Oxford alumni who had non-linear career paths:

'Lawyers who became artists or musicians who ventured into theatre.'

She found herself considering moving into marine science. 'I was having this symphony of conversations with colleagues. Climate displacement was an issue I was exposed to in coursework, but it was only in my second year, during the pandemic, that I began wondering how I could use this degree to shift into marine science, where climate, ecology and public policy interact.'

Where did the idea come from? 'I grew up by the sea,' she explains, 'learning about the nautical voyages of Ahmed ibn Mājid and about our fishing and pearl diving heritage. I was also a girl scout, always venturing out with my unit and exploring local landscapes. I loved it. But marine science never seemed a feasible career.'

To steer through this liminal time in her life, Amal decided to curate her master's thesis to examine the state of the evidence on marine conservation interventions and their impact on social and ecological outcomes. 'And I particularly sought to do it within the Arabian Gulf.'



## Oscillating between marine research and climate negotiations

Since 2022 Amal has been working as a research assistant at the Marine Biology Lab back at NYU Abu Dhabi. 'It's very fast paced. I'm juggling four projects at the moment and assisting with other fieldwork when I can.' Her projects include collaborative studies into the impact of coastal urbanisation on traditional fishing communities and another into the environmental impacts of desalination in the Arabian eco-region. She also recently earned her Royal Yachting Association powerboat licence level 2 and her Advanced Open Water PADI licence.

But all this isn't enough – after all, Rhodes Scholars have a strong ethos of public service. 'Recently, I was fortunate enough to be accepted on a part-time secondment basis to work as a negotiator with the Office of the UAE Special Envoy for Climate Change in the lead up to COP28 this year.'

She concludes: 'The next seven years will be critical for mobilising, financing and scaling-up climate action. And locally led adaptations that protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems will be essential.'



## Transforming futures A gift with long-lasting impact

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# my role at NETFLIX

## creating jobs as well as content

Rajiv Dalal (MSt International Human Rights Law, 2007) has spent his career building connections between entertainment and economics, culminating in an influential role at Netflix.

Making the connection between economics and culture is something Rajiv Dalal is passionate about. It's taken him from the pioneering record label Interscope to Mumbai's entertainment industry to the US Senate and ultimately to his current role at Netflix – with a stop at Kellogg College along the way.

'The common thread for me is the socio-economic challenges that different societies face,' Rajiv explains. 'In particular the ability to create economic development and job growth. This stuck with me throughout my time at Oxford and after. Every decision that I've made in my career has kept that in mind.'

Working at the intersection of entertainment and politics goes right back to the early days of his career. After working at Interscope Records, he later spent time as a staffer on Capitol Hill advising the US Senate on telecommunications. At law school he focused on entertainment law and corporate law, beginning his legal career as a capital markets lawyer for Dorsey & Whitney LLP, before broadening his

horizons by studying for Oxford's part-time MSc in International Human Rights law, based at Kellogg.

'The International Human Rights programme was unique because of the individuals that made up the class from all around the world,' Rajiv says. 'You had individuals with unbelievable experience helping out humanity from a legal, humanitarian, social and economic perspective. The discussions I had on the course were an experience like no other. You can't replicate the international diversity of the class or the conversations and perspectives. I learnt from those individuals to do something meaningful for society.'

One example is the Samvedana Trust in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, which Rajiv helped co-found and subsequently taught at. 'The school we founded in 2003 started as a makeshift building in the slums of Gujarat. We got 40 kids in there teaching the basics of reading, writing and hygiene, activities and so on. It's grown every year since then.'

'What drove me in that direction is the need for every kid to have a proper

education. Education reform is important in so many parts of the world. I think it's frankly the big social rights issue of our time, although most people don't see it as that.'

After working in India's entertainment nexus in Mumbai and at Time Warner in Hong Kong, Rajiv now leads the content and studio affairs division at Netflix.

'My work here at Netflix focuses on our long-term investments. These provide immeasurable economic impact and development to the regions where we establish our major studio hubs, which employ tens of thousands of people.'

'These are well paying, middle class jobs that aren't easily automated and for which you don't necessarily need a degree. Being able to generate a critical mass of these types of productions in territories which traditionally haven't been areas for film production – being able to offer that type of economic impact and development – has been incredibly rewarding and a key driver of decisions as well as my career choices.'

This kind of transformational impact is what Rajiv enjoys most about his work. 'It comes back to the job creation. Last year we announced we were opening a major studio hub in the middle of New Jersey following a similar move in New Mexico a couple years earlier. It's something nobody would have done before – reinvigorating an entire community which had been left destitute a decade ago when the US Army pulled out of the military base.'

'I was born and raised in New Jersey, so having titles shot there and seen by the rest of the world gives me a sense of pride. It's inspiring and rewarding.'





*'Our proposed masterplan aims to create a unique atmosphere, respect the history of the site, and repurpose it for the 21st century'*

**Andy Sturgeon**

# BREAKING NEW GROUND



**In an exciting new step in Kellogg's history, the first stage of work to transform our site's green spaces has been completed thanks to generous donations from our College community.**

In March this year, new ground was broken to transform Kellogg's central lawn, in front of The Hub, to create a more useable and accessible place to relax, enjoy and connect with others. It's the first stage of a wider scheme to develop the College's four-acre site into a series of interconnected green spaces that foster community, good health and increased biodiversity.

The scheme has been designed by Andy Sturgeon – a leading figure in British

landscape design, and winner of numerous gold medals and Best in Show awards at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Andy's designs creatively and thoughtfully reimagine the College's green spaces all the while being sensitive to our site's rich history where most of the buildings, and some of the garden walls, have listed status.

Thanks to generous donations from the Herbert Lane Trust and from Alison Day, in memory of Emeritus Fellow, Chris Day, we are making great progress

in realising the scheme. They have funded the central lawn which has been redeveloped to increase biodiversity and create new habitats. The narrow path running between The Hub and the dining hall has been widened and new flower beds alongside the existing building provide a contrast to the glass and brick walls.

The wide-ranging planting will attract a multitude of invertebrates and other animals, bringing people into closer contact with nature to enhance

both the health and wellbeing of students and visitors for years to come.

It's fantastic to see the first stage of our vision to develop our gardens and enrich the Kellogg experience fulfilled. There are still plenty of opportunities to get involved in further stages and to be part of enriching the lives of students at Kellogg – now and for future generations. If you would like to find out more, please visit:

**[www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/gardens](http://www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/gardens)**

All of us at Kellogg College are grateful to our loyal supporters whose generosity enables us to deliver the best possible Oxford experience for our students – through our study and social facilities, and our range of student support funds and services. Your gifts make a huge difference by transforming futures and making a lasting impact as our students use their knowledge and skills to benefit communities around the world.

# Thank you







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