I am honoured to have this opportunity to offer, on behalf of the whole Imperial community, our heartfelt thanks for your support.

Every donation, every hour volunteered, has an impact. Your support for Imperial provides scholarships for talented young people. It advances scientific research and technological innovation. It enables health programmes in the developing world. And it sustains a campus with world-class facilities for teaching and research.

Your generosity made this a record-breaking year for Imperial. More than 5,400 of you donated to the College, raising over £54 million for research, education and campus development. Never before have so many given. Never before has so much been given in a single year. Thank you.

Unlocking the potential of the brightest young people is a personal priority for me, and it is gratifying to see that so many of you, through your support for the President’s Scholarship Fund, share that commitment to raising up the innovators, leaders and thinkers of tomorrow. Thanks to your generous support, we were able to award 110 President’s Scholarships in 2013–14. It has been wonderful to meet some of those students whose time at Imperial has been enriched by a scholarship. In talking to them I have heard how they have broadened their intellectual horizons, excelled as scholars, and given their service to our community and beyond. I have heard them speak of the confidence they find in the knowledge that the generosity of a community of Imperial alumni stands behind their scholarship award. You can read about some of our scholars on pages 8–15.

Philanthropy at Imperial reaches far beyond the confines of campus, or the limits of academia. Our research has impact around the world, in fields as varied as global health, environmental sustainability and financial analysis. In Africa, your support for Imperial’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative brings life-changing treatment for parasitic disease to tens of millions of children, freeing them from chronic ill-health and debilitating fatigue. In Peru, your philanthropy is supporting Dr Wouter Buytaert’s work to help farming communities balance economic development and environmental sustainability. Here in the UK, the 2014 gift of £40 million from alumnus Michael Uren OBE and his Foundation is advancing the work of biomedical engineers, whose innovations in medical technology offer us the promise of healthier and more active lives. You can read more about how the generosity of donors like Michael Uren is advancing world-changing research at Imperial on pages 24–29.

Through our excellent academic community we can be innovative and courageous in our research and education. At our new White City Campus we have an unprecedented opportunity to bring together talented people from varied disciplines and accelerate multidisciplinary research to benefit society. The catalytic effect of philanthropic giving will be integral to achieving our vision over coming decades. We will share our plans as they develop and I am confident that you will feel excited like us about the opportunities ahead.

The Imperial 1851 Circle, which recognises the contribution of those who give £1,000 or more in a year, is growing, with nearly three hundred current members. We are pleased to launch the Imperial 1907 Circle, to celebrate donors who give £5,000 or more. The members of our two donor circles are at the forefront of our fundraising effort, and the College is profoundly grateful for their contribution.

Since arriving in London, it has been a joy to learn about your passion for Imperial, and to hear how the College has had a positive influence on you. I am inspired by the many reasons our donors are motivated to “give something back”. In pages 16–23 we introduce some long-standing supporters along with new donors, whose generosity is advancing research and education at Imperial.

You, our benefactors, sustain and enhance Imperial’s mission to deliver academic excellence and societal impact. For this, the Imperial community is profoundly grateful. Your support is the life blood of the College. Thank you.

Alice P. Gast
PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT 2013–14

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2013–14 was a landmark year for fundraising at Imperial. Over 5,400 alumni and friends of the College made a gift in support of scholarships, research, education and campus development — more than in any previous year. Together, our donors raised a record-breaking £54.2 million, including a gift of £40 million, our largest ever donation. We are grateful to everyone who gave during 2013–14: every gift, every gesture of support makes a difference.

A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF SUPPORT

- 3,886 United Kingdom
- 837 North America
- 309 Europe
- 235 Asia
- 75 Oceania
- 29 Africa
- 26 South America

NUMBER OF DONORS

5,403

The highest number of individuals to ever give to the College in a single year.

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE GIVING TO IMPERIAL HAS DOUBLED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS. THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF THIS SURGE OF SUPPORT.

SNAPSHOT

- 19 the age of our youngest donor
- 102 the age of our oldest donor

£54,216,139

Every gift makes a difference. In 2013–14 we together raised over £54 million to support education, research and campus renewal.

£880,934

Alumni

£1,429,144

Companies

£48,307,068

Charitable Trusts and Foundations

£2,089,012

Friends

£1,509,981

Legators

HOW YOUR DONATIONS WILL BE USED

- Student support £6,136,769
- Campus development £40,300,457
- Academic direction £7,778,913
- Research Gifts made for research, academic posts and the Schistosomiasis Control Initiative.
- Campus development Gifts made for capital development and research equipment costs.
- Student support Gifts made for scholarships, bursaries and prizes.

£40 million

Announced in May 2014, alumnus Michael Uren’s gift of £40 million for biomedical engineering is the largest in the College’s history.
IMPERIAL IS A PLACE WHERE STUDENTS REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL. IT WILL BE THE PLACE I FULFIL MY OWN.

— EMMA, AERONAUTICS SCHOLAR

Heavy testing laboratories and workshops in the basement of the City and Guilds Building. Ongoing refurbishment work in the City and Guilds Building is creating state-of-the-art facilities for research, teaching and practical work, with shared accommodation enabling closer working between the Department of Aeronautics and the Department of Mechanical Engineering.
Our Scholars

Recognising Potential

Rewarding Talent

By supporting scholarships at Imperial, you help us to attract the brightest young people to study at the College, offering them the chance to fulfil their potential in one of the world’s great universities. Here, we meet some of today’s undergraduate and doctoral scholars, and learn how their lives have been transformed by donor support for scholarships.

New Treatments for Blast Brain Injuries

A PhD scholarship is both an honour and an inspiration for Mariia Koziakova (Medicine).

“After finishing my undergraduate studies in Ukraine, I moved to London in 2012 to study for an MRes in Biomedical Research at Imperial. I was amazed by the quality of research and teaching at Imperial and by the end of my course, I knew that I wanted to continue my studies at the College. My PhD scholarship allowed me to do just that. I began my doctoral research in 2013. I’m looking at blast brain injury and the development of noble gas treatments. It’s currently a very important issue worldwide, not just because of the consequences of wars, but also because of terrorist attacks and improvised explosive devices. We are trying to develop a treatment based on the use of noble gases such as xenon and argon, which have been shown in models to be quite effective. Hopefully it will have a real impact in the future.”

Attending a stunning graduation ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall after completing my MRes was a remarkable experience for me, and I enjoyed meeting Baroness Manningham-Buller, Chair of Council and former Director General of MI5. It’s hard to pick out a single highlight of my time here — I’ve enjoyed every minute of my time at Imperial.”

A Change of Direction

Leaving part-way through a prestigious graduate programme at Princeton University was, Jack Hare (Physics) admits, “quite unusual”.

But this 25-year-old physicist was convinced that Imperial was the best place for his work on plasma physics. A year later — thanks to an Imperial College PhD scholarship — he knows coming to Imperial was the right choice.

After graduating with a Bsc and Master’s degree in Physics from the University of Cambridge, Jack headed across the Atlantic to take up a place on a programme at Princeton University. Two years into the programme he was preparing to begin his doctoral studies. There was a problem, however: “I wasn’t feeling inspired by the direction my research was taking, and I was beginning to question whether Princeton was the right place for me,” Jack explains. “It was when I saw Imperial’s MAGPIE (Mega Ampere Generator for Plasma Implosion Experiments) group presenting at a conference that something clicked. I thought ‘Oh wow — this stuff is really good, really interesting’.

Impressed by what he had heard, Jack contacted the Department of Physics to ask if he could join their research team as a doctoral student. “Professor Sergey Lebedev said that they would like to have me, but that the Department couldn’t provide funding.” That’s where the Imperial College PhD Scholarship Scheme came in, offering Jack tuition fees and a generous stipend for living costs. It was a life-changing moment: “Without the scholarship there wouldn’t have been the money for me to come to Imperial. Without the scholarship I wouldn’t be here.”

Giving up his place at Princeton wasn’t an easy decision, however. “I had a lot of discussions with people at Princeton about leaving, because it’s quite unusual. But by that point I really thought Imperial was the right place for me. I’ve been at Imperial a year now, and I know I made the right choice.”

Jack is studying plasmas — very hot ionised gases that normally only occur in stars and the centres of planets. It’s research that requires specialist equipment. “To create plasmas for experimental work you need a machine the size of a house. These cost a lot of money and there aren’t many of them around. In fact, there are only two machines in the world that are comparable with the machine we have at Imperial. For me to do the research I want to do, I need to be in a specific place. And that place is Imperial.”

His scholarship includes an annual allowance for travel, which has allowed Jack to attend two international conferences over the last year. “Science is all about collaboration. That’s why conferences are so incredibly important for young scientists… the opportunity to travel and to meet people — that’s one of the best things the scholarship has done for my career.”

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Confidence boost
With London enjoying the warmest October weather for a century, blue skies and hot sunshine greeted the crowds of freshers arriving on campus for the beginning of the 2011 autumn term.

Looking back on that day, undergraduate Rebecca Stanford (Life Sciences) remembers being grateful for the added confidence that her President’s Scholarship gave her. “Coming to Imperial was exciting, but it was also daunting to be coming to a place where it seemed like everyone would know everything. The scholarship definitely gave me a much-needed boost of confidence. I knew that there were people who believed in me and what I could achieve.”

Rebecca had learned about her scholarship in the summer of 2011, a few months before her Imperial journey began. She still remembers her excitement when she opened her offer letter and saw that she had been selected for a President’s Scholarship. “I was so surprised when I found out I was going to receive a scholarship — I knew there must be lots of competition to win Imperial scholarships. It was so encouraging to know that my hard work was being recognised.”

Now in the final year of her degree, Rebecca is very aware of how her scholarship has enriched her experience at the College. “My scholarship allowed me to live the Imperial experience fully, and to take advantage of everything that London has to offer. I was also able to take up a research placement at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. But it is the motivating power of the scholarship that Rebecca is particularly grateful for. “As my workload piled up, I always remembered the support of my donors and their belief in me and my future. I am grateful for that gift.”

Rebecca is already thinking about how she can help future generations of Imperial students to receive the opportunities she did. “I would like to thank everyone who supported the President’s Scholarship Fund. Their generosity has taken me, and my fellow scholars, closer to our goals in life. I am thankful for the opportunities Imperial has given me, and hope that in the future I will be able to support future students to benefit as I have.”

Opportunity unlocked
Looking back over a successful start to his degree in Mathematics and Computer Science, Yordan Chaparov (above right) is certain of one thing: without the financial support of a scholarship he would never have had the opportunity to study at Imperial.

Born and educated in Bulgaria, Yordan joined Imperial in 2011 as the first recipient of the Kolio Ficheto Engineering Scholarship, which offers talented Bulgarian students the opportunity to study for a degree at Imperial. With his tuition fees and living costs covered by the scholarship, Yordan has seized the opportunities offered to him, excelling in his studies, winning prestigious internships in Europe and the US and enjoying life in London to the full.

Yordan’s degree course is demanding, and he is relieved that he hasn’t had to work to support himself. “Imperial is challenging enough on its own, without having to take on part-time work,” he says. “Being able to focus entirely on my studies has allowed me to get the most out of university, both in an academic sense, and from university life more generally.” Having seen friends struggle to balance part-time work with their studies, Yordan considers himself fortunate to have the financial support of a scholarship. “I see some of my friends who have to work while studying and, however brilliant they are, they aren’t even sure if they will pass the year.”

Now in his third year, and with more freedom to choose which subjects to study, Yordan’s enthusiasm for his subject made it hard to narrow down his selection. His passion for his subject meant that I could be selective about choosing an internship,” he says. “I took my time, applied to different companies and even though Google had invited me to return for a second year, I decided to go for a different experience from a big company. I spent this summer in the US working for a small start-up company that is developing a faster in-memory database system, which will speed up the way we analyse big data sets.”

“I hadn’t been awarded the scholarship, I wouldn’t have been able to come to Imperial.”

What impact has the scholarship had on Yordan’s life? “If I think about what might have been if I wasn’t awarded the scholarship, I know that I wouldn’t have been able to come to Imperial. Without the Kolio Ficheto Scholarship, it wouldn’t have been possible for me to afford my tuition fees or to live in London. I am so happy that I have been given this opportunity.”
Studying in the heart of London

A Thermo Fisher Scholarship has enabled undergraduate Markus Mohr (Chemical Engineering) to make the most of all that Imperial has to offer.

“My first year at Imperial was exciting, demanding and without doubt the best year of my life so far. I have always enjoyed the applied problem-solving parts of science and maths, and wanted to study something that has a real impact on the quality of people’s lives. That’s why I chose to study Chemical Engineering. It has been a huge step up from A-levels, but I’ve relished the challenge.

My favourite topics have been the core chemical engineering modules looking at fluid mechanics and thermodynamics and how they interrelate. I also enjoyed the ‘Mastery’ modules, which test our ability to apply what we have learned to a real problem. I’m hoping to go on to a career in renewables or oil and gas extraction: how to meet our energy needs in one of the biggest problems facing mankind.

Living in central London has been amazing. It’s a place packed with infinite things to do, and I can only be thankful that I have three more years to explore the city.

My scholarship from Thermo Fisher has helped me massively over the past year. Money is tight in my family at the moment. Without the financial aid I received from this scholarship I quite simply wouldn’t have been able to cope with the cost of living in London without getting a part-time job, which would have been detrimental to my academic progression. The scholarship has improved my student experience to an extent that I couldn’t have imagined when I began my studies.”

The sky is the limit

For Tereze Galia (Aeronautical Engineering) a President’s Scholarship has paved the way to an array of new experiences.

“I remember the day I received my offer of a scholarship very distinctly. My mum had left a couple of letters for me on the table, and I began opening them while I was talking to a friend on the phone. When I opened the one from Imperial it took me a while to register that I had received an offer of a place to study Aeronautical Engineering and that I had been selected for a President’s Scholarship. As the news sank in a huge smile spread across my face. It was a very happy moment indeed! My family and I were so happy to receive a scholarship because it meant that I would not have to worry about money during my time at Imperial. The scholarship has made a huge difference to my university life. It helped me to cover my living expenses while I settled in during my first year, and has meant that I’m not under any pressure to get a job during term time. The scholarship has allowed me to afford to join the netball and hockey teams and to take part in sports tours to Italy and Germany. I’ve also been skiing — for the first time in my life — and am going to try skydiving this year. Without the scholarship I would not be able to afford to try so many new things. Without a doubt the scholarship has greatly enriched my university experience.

Next year I’m planning to volunteer for an education project that works with poor communities in rural Nepal. I have always wanted to help people less fortunate than myself — and want to use my education to improve the lives of people living in poverty. I’m so grateful that my scholarship will help me to realise this goal.

The scholarships funded by donations make a huge difference to outgoing and bright individuals, many of whom do not come from a privileged background. Life in London can be so expensive and lack of money can be a huge restraint on university life. A scholarship helps students to take full advantage of all the opportunities at university, and provides them with the financial security to ensure money isn’t the one thing stopping them from doing what they really enjoy or even have the chance to try something completely new. For your support, thank you.”

“My first year at Imperial was exciting, demanding...and without doubt the best year of my life so far.”
THE FUTURE CANNOT BE PREDICTED, BUT FUTURES CAN BE INVENTED.
— DENNIS GABOR FRS, NOBEL LAUREATE, INVENTOR OF HOLOGRAPHY AND IMPERIAL PROFESSOR OF ELECTRON PHYSICS

The Imperial College Incubator is a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, providing office and laboratory space for early-stage companies. Here donor and alumna Maria Dramalioti-Taylor (MSc Mechanical Engineering 1994) is discussing start-up technology with MeshPower’s Lukas Lukoschek. MeshPower is a tech start-up initiated by Imperial alumni hoping to solve the global problem of how to provide electricity to rural areas in the developing world.
What motivated them to give back to Imperial?

Riding for health
In embarking on a 900-mile charity bike ride from Land’s End to John O’Groats, Adam Johnson (Computer Science 2011) was following in something of a family tradition of long-distance cycling.

“It all started thirty years ago,” says Adam. “My granddad cycled the length of the UK when he retired. My dad was really keen to do the ride this year, so my brother and I joined him.”

Adam’s 14-day ride raised nearly £600 for Imperial’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative (SCI): enough to provide medical treatment for parasitic diseases to over 1,000 children in some of Africa’s poorest communities.

Although an Imperial alumnus, Adam’s decision to support the SCI wasn’t solely a consequence of his connection with the College. “I wanted to raise money for a charity that was good value for money,” Adam explains. “The SCI does amazing work that has been independently recognised for its effectiveness and low administration costs. I knew that the money I raised would be used well.”

Looking back at his ride, it’s not the tired legs and aching muscles that Adam remembers, but rather the diversity of the countryside: “The ride showed me how varied the UK is. We passed areas where the road signs were in two languages. The views were brilliant, especially in Scotland.”

When he is not on his bike, Adam works as a programmer and is enjoying “playing around with code all day”. Does he expect to do more fundraising for the SCI?

He nods: “It’s a project well worthy of support.”

Giving from within
What motivates Imperial staff to donate in support of students? It’s about investing in the future, says Debra Humphris, committed donor and College Vice Provost (Education).

“It’s the students themselves that inspired me to give. Our students are highly talented and work incredibly hard, but they come from diverse backgrounds, and not all are well-off. If my support can in some small way help a talented student to get through a financially tough time, that’s good for the individual, and good for wider society.”

London is an expensive place to study. I meet students trying to live on £30 a week while keeping up with their studies. That’s hard. Taking on regular paid work on top of your studies isn’t ideal for most students — although thousands across the UK have to take on part-time jobs out of economic necessity.

Supporting students is about supporting the future. As staff, we know how hard students work to get to Imperial, and see first-hand how hard they work when they’re here. If staff can afford to give, I would encourage them to do so. Even a modest donation for student support will bring real benefit to our students in need.

It feels right that I do my bit to support students, who are going through hard times. It’s about my personal values, but I also see it as part of my role as a member of the College community. My Imperial 1851 Circle lapel pin is a great way to start a conversation. People spot it, and ask what it’s about. I feel like I have a responsibility to spread the word about the Circle, because many people have not yet heard about it. It’s also a way to show my sense of pride and identity in being part of the Imperial community.”

Supporting the next generation
For Letizia Pepe (Electrical and Electronic Engineering 2009), Imperial was a place to grow professionally and personally. Her decision to donate is rooted in the hope that all students, regardless of background, can benefit from the opportunities she had.

“One of my university friends, who came from a less well-off family, received a scholarship, so I know how important they can be. He was one of the best students in the year, and really flourished at Imperial, eventually graduating with top grades. When you recognise the value of an institution and its work, you want to help and encourage that in any way that you can. Of course, giving to Imperial is a way of acknowledging that you feel proud of the College. But it’s also a way of giving others the chance to benefit from the great things that this university has to offer.

Imperial excels at science communication. I took a communication course that equipped me to present technical topics to people from non-technical backgrounds. That’s something I really struggled with at the beginning of my degree. Today I’m working in the technical department of a bank, and I see lots of colleagues who didn’t have that kind of education at university struggling with the same thing.

I feel that I personally owe so much to Imperial. I want other people to have the opportunities that I did, whatever their background. That’s why it feels nice to give back, and to support the President’s Scholarship Fund. I hope in time that I can contribute more.”

Every individual who offers their support to Imperial has a unique and personal reason for giving. Here we speak to just a few of those who made a donation or volunteered their time in support of the College in 2013–14. What motivated them to give back to Imperial?
In the family

With four of their five children having graduated from Imperial, alumnus Chris Bommer and his wife Aileen consider their family to have gained “more than most” from the College.

The Bommer family’s unique connection to Imperial stretches back to 1963, when Chris studied for a postgraduate qualification in Concrete Structures and Technology. It was some seven years earlier, soon after graduating from his first degree, that Chris accepted a position in Nigeria, where he met Aileen, then secretary to the Nigerian Minister of Education. “We got on well as she was a natural engineer,” says Chris. “She carried spanners and screwdrivers in her handbag and used to maintain her own motorbikes.” After two years in Africa, the couple returned to the UK to marry. In 1963, after a ‘technical grilling’ from the Head of Department, Chris won a College bursary, allowing him to take a year out of work and undertake postgraduate study. Many of his classmates on the Concrete Structures and Technology course also had industry experience, which, Chris recalls, made for interesting exchanges with the more academically-oriented lecturers. During his time at Imperial, Chris discovered a passion for scuba diving that he retains; he was an active member of the Sub Aqua Club for many years after graduating, volunteering his time to help organise diving trips around the UK and Spain. In 1968 Chris and a fellow alumnus founded the Imperial Octopush Team (often known as underwater hockey), which continues to make a splash in national competitions to this day.

Chris and Aileen share their passion for science and engineering with their children, which may explain in part why four of them have followed in Chris’s footsteps and graduated from the Faculty of Engineering at Imperial. “The children took their A-levels in their stride and gained places at Imperial with various scholarships and awards,” says Chris. “Julian and Paul did Civil Engineering and Caroline and Philip did Mechanical Engineering.” Although putting five children through university meant that finances were sometimes tight, Chris and Aileen wanted the children to be able to make the most of their years at university. Aileen explains: “We weren’t that well off in those days, so each of the children had one year living at home and one year in halls. We didn’t want them to miss out on the experience of living in halls.”

As the family celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Chris’s graduation from Imperial, we asked what motivated Chris and Aileen to give so generously in support of scholarships at Imperial. “As a family we gained a lot from Imperial,” explains Chris. “We have benefitted not only from the qualifications, but also from the prestige and reputation of the College. All of us have fond memories of our time at Imperial where we enjoyed the wide variety of interests available outside our courses. We feel we owe more than most families and are happy to give something back.”

It is wonderful to see Imperial’s latest equipment and to talk to the students whom we may have helped in some small way. It was a joy to see them light up with enthusiasm when talking about their projects — that makes it all seem very worthwhile.”

— Chris Bommer, seen here with his wife Aileen visiting the Structural Engineering Laboratories in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Philip did Mechanical Engineering. It is wonderful to see Imperial’s latest equipment and to talk to the students whom we may have helped in some small way. It was a joy to see them light up with enthusiasm when talking about their projects — that makes it all seem very worthwhile.”

— Chris Bommer, seen here with his wife Aileen visiting the Structural Engineering Laboratories in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

In recognition of their generous support for the President’s Scholarship Fund, this year Chris and Aileen Bommer were welcomed as members of the Imperial 1851 Circle, which recognises the generosity of those who give £1,000 or more a year.
Volunteers are making a difference in our community. The life of Imperial is profoundly enhanced by a growing number of dedicated volunteers, who contribute their time, skills and expertise in support of the College.

Giving back to the Imperial College Business School

Deciding where to study can be a tricky decision for management professionals wanting to gain a postgraduate qualification. At Imperial College Business School, alumni volunteers help to give candidates who have been offered a place an insight into life at the School, and go on to welcome them to the School if they accept the place offered.

Suraj Bassi (International Health Management 2009) has been an alumnus advocate since 2011. “I see my role as a catalyst in helping students decide whether this is the right course and the right institute for them,” says Suraj. “There is nothing more rewarding than talking to prospective students and taking them from a ‘maybe’ position to a ‘100 per cent yes, this the one is for me’ position. Having thoroughly enjoyed the year I spent at Imperial College Business School and having gained so much from my MSc, I feel like this is a nice way of giving something back to the School.”

Suraj was also a member of the School’s Alumni Advisory Board from 2012 to 2014, offering his time and energy to help build a thriving alumni community. “I always wanted to promote good links between the Business School and industry,” he comments. “I saw this as an opportunity to get involved with the Business School alumni strategy and to contribute to improving the MSc in International Health Management.”

“A real education”

The Imperial College Alumni Association of Hong Kong has established a mentoring programme which gives Hong Kong students the opportunity to arrange one-to-one sessions with alumni to discuss careers and personal development.

Dr Paulina Chan (Electrical Engineering 1977), who is championing the scheme, says it enables students to continue their education beyond the core curriculum. “It fits perfectly with my personal vision of real education, which is well beyond studying and making all As,” she adds.

The programme is run by volunteers and draws on the strength of the College’s alumni community in Hong Kong. The process of matching mentors and mentees began in June 2013 and is now into its third year.

“I found out that my mentee’s first lab at Imperial was the same first lab that I had when I was a student, which taught us how to use an oscilloscope!”

—Dr Paulina Chan

Ken Ho, Chairman of the Hong Kong Alumni Association, says, “The mentoring programme constitutes one of the Association’s signature initiatives and provides a platform for alumni to share their life lessons and wisdom in order to help nurture the talents of our next generation. I am excited by the prospect for further growth of the scheme, and I look forward to seeing its benefits in the years to come.”

From the dynamic global networks that are generated and sustained by our entirely volunteer-run alumni associations, to the many mentors who support our students at every stage of their educational and professional careers, these contributions keep Imperial vibrant. We’re immensely thankful for your support.

Inspired by these volunteering tales? Get involved:
www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/take-part/volunteer/alumni@imperial.ac.uk

1,327 VOLUNTEERS
More than 1,300 people volunteered for Imperial in 2013–14. For giving your time, thank you.

62 COUNTRIES
Volunteers are active in 62 countries, from Asia to South America and from Europe to Africa.

27,223 HOURS
Our volunteers give their time for a variety of causes — from student recruitment, to supporting Imperial’s international alumni network, to sharing their advice and expertise.
LASTING IMPACT

SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT AND ITS CREATION IS THE COMMON AND SHARED HERITAGE OF MANKIND.

— ABDUS SALAM FRS, NOBEL LAUREATE AND PROFESSOR OF THEORETICAL PHYSICS AT IMPERIAL FROM 1957 TO 1994
Biomedical engineering at Imperial are developing new technologies that are enabling patients to live independent and active lives. That work is set to be propelled forwards thanks to a gift of £40 million from alumnus Michael Uren OBE for the creation of a new centre for biomedical engineering research.

**Tackling osteoarthritis**

Research from the Institute is already improving the lives of people with osteoarthritis – a painful condition caused by the wearing away of the cartilage in the joints. By creating precision computer models of how joints move, researchers at Imperial have designed a new generation of replacement joint implants that last longer, and that require less invasive surgery to fit. Imperial is a leading centre for research on the use of biomaterials in the treatment of osteoarthritis, a key area for future research, says Anthony. “In the past, the focus was creating inert implants that would not be rejected by the body. Our goal today is to go beyond that, and to create materials that actually interact with the body. Our research is developing materials that stimulate the body to grow new cartilage – regenerating the damage done to the tissue in osteoarthritis.”

**Blast injury**

With more than two thousand UK military personnel injured during the conflict in Afghanistan, many suffering severe injury from roadside bombs, there is an urgent need for more understanding about how explosive blasts affect the body. Working alongside military doctors, researchers at Imperial’s Centre for Blast Injury Studies have created experiments and computer models that simulate explosions. “Our findings have already made a difference,” says Anthony. “We've advised on how sitting posture in vehicles can affect the impact of a blast on the body, and have influenced the design of some of the protective equipment used by soldiers. We've also been involved in helping military medical staff understand the medium and longer-term impact of injury, and how immediate treatment can help to improve the longer-term outcomes for patients.”

**Added impetus**

The creation of the new Michael Uren Biomedical Engineering Research Hub at the College’s new White City Campus in west London promises to add impetus to biomedical engineering research at Imperial. At present, this research is dispersed across the College’s South Kensington and various hospital campuses; the new Hub will bring together engineers, scientists and clinicians in one space, which will offer world-class facilities, space for collaboration with industrial partners, and clinical areas that will give patients direct access to innovations in healthcare. “It is difficult to overstate the difference that the new Hub will make to the work of Imperial,” says Anthony. “The building is designed to support collaboration — not just between different faculties, but with research groups at other institutions, and industrial partners. The Musculoskeletal Lab at Imperial’s Charing Cross is a good example of how well this kind of collaborative approach works. Headed by Professor Justin Cobb and Professor Alison McGregor, it brings together engineers, clinicians and patients, translating benchtop findings straight to the bedside and operating theatre. This building will allow us to take that to the next level.”

The UK’s changing population means that Michael Uren’s support for biomedical engineering is particularly welcome, Anthony says. “As a society, we are facing up to the challenges of providing affordable healthcare to an ageing population. The medical technologies developed in the Research Hub will play an important part in responding to those challenges. Imperial’s biomedical engineers are developing tools to diagnose disease earlier and speed rehabilitation after injury, keeping people independent and active for longer, and reducing the cost of providing care.”

---

*In effect, what we are creating here is a new Silicon Valley London, which is bound to succeed, and I am honoured to have been able to participate in this landmark development.*

— Michael Uren OBE (Mechanical Engineering 1943)
Teacher training with a difference

Imperial’s INSPIRE programme gives seasoned scientists and the brightest science graduates a unique pathway into teaching, equipping them with the skills and experience not just to teach, but to engage and enthuse children about science.

Launched in 2009, INSPIRE is a teacher training programme with a difference. Alongside taught sessions and placements in schools, trainees also participate in five weeks of science outreach activities, learning practical skills and demonstration techniques that bring science to life. The offer of a generous bursary, made possible thanks to support from the Foyle Foundation, helps to attract highly-qualified trainees onto the course.

Damian Phelan (Physics 2010, INSPIRE 2012), Head of Science and Sport at St Paul’s Way Trust School, a thriving comprehensive school in East London, graduated from the INSPIRE programme in May 2011. Today he is a passionate advocate for the scheme, which he credits for his enthusiasm for bringing practical demonstrations into the classroom. “When I started my first training placement in a school, I was reluctant to lead practical sessions,” says Damian. “Keeping control was a worry, and I didn’t have a background in experimental work.” But the course requirement that trainees run a weekly science club gave Damian a regular opportunity to build his confidence and to try new activities. “Over the course of the year I became comfortable with all types of practical sessions, across all science subjects. With a normal PGCE I wouldn’t have gained that confidence.”

Today Damian does at least one practical session a week with each class he teaches. Does he have a favourite practical for engaging children? “I like to do methane bubbles”, says Damian. “You blow methane through soapy water to create bubbles, which the children can collect on their hands. If you put a flame to it, it will ignite and the children have fire in their hands. That’s a good one.”

The offer of an enhanced bursary is essential for attracting well-qualified trainees, says Damian. “Every one else in my INSPIRE cohort had done a PhD, and for them the bursary was crucial. They wouldn’t have gone into teaching without it. The bursary helps get really well-qualified people to want to become teachers. It hooks them in.”

One of the first things Damian did when he took up his current post was to sign his school up as a partner in the INSPIRE programme, and St Paul’s Way Trust welcomed its first trainee in autumn 2014. “Everyone I’ve seen from INSPIRE has been really, really good,” Damian explains. “They have such good knowledge of their subject, and they have experience of demonstrating science and of outreach with children. INSPIRE graduates quickly become great teachers.”

For Damian, the INSPIRE programme was a route into a career that he clearly loves: “I couldn’t imagine doing anything else,” he says. “When it’s a good day, you just get the highest high, and that stays with you.”

Raising aspirations

A new volunteering scheme is bringing Imperial alumni into London’s secondary schools, championing the career benefits of an education in science, and inspiring young people to study science-based subjects at university. The scheme was the brainchild of Dilshad Shawki, an Imperial alumnus (MSc Physics, 2013) and current PhD student in the Department of Physics. Dilshad had volunteered in schools as an undergraduate student at the University of Surrey, and had seen first-hand how little the young people he tutored knew about careers in science. “Many of the students I met did not know anyone in their family or community who were in STEM.”

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Dilshad teamed up with Imperial’s existing in-school volunteering scheme, Schools Plus, and with support from the Alumni Office, forged ahead with a pilot programme that brought alumni speakers into schools to talk about their career and how their science degree prepared them for their job, both academically and more generally.

Twelve months on, and with outstanding feedback from the participating schools, Dilshad and the Schools Plus team are planning to expand the scheme in 2015.

Donors and volunteers play a vital role in our work to inspire children about science and to encourage more young people to study science-based subjects. By giving their time to school-based volunteering schemes, or donating to outreach and education programmes like INSPIRE, our supporters are helping to raise aspirations and to spark interest in scientific discovery.

Festival welcomes local schools groups

Over 90 children from London schools attended the inaugural Schools Day at the 2014 Imperial Festival. They got a sneak preview of the festival exhibits before its public opening and learnt more about the research going on at the College.

The Schools Day, which was supported by a generous gift from Imperial alumni David and Dr Judy Dangoul, provided children with a bespoke programme of activities, including hands-on science demonstrations and the chance to explore the interactive exhibitions in the Research Zone marquee. Popular activities included “snout doctors”, an exploration of the biology of the respiratory system with dirt and grime, and “jelly worms”, a light-hearted look at polymerization research.

The decision to organise a bespoke programme for schools was made after teachers said that they would welcome the opportunity to bring children to the festival during school hours. “The students absolutely loved the festival and received great feedback from staff for their enthusiasm and excellent questions. It was a very valuable experience,” said Ms King, who teaches science at Westminster Academy, one of the participating schools.

“Many of the students I met did not know anyone in their family or community who were in STEM.”

Dilshad Shawki
A Fellow of the Grantham Institute, Dr Wouter Buytaert is using new technologies to engage communities in remote mountainous areas in monitoring changes to their environment — creating an evidence base that will inform their choices about how to balance economic development with the fragility of the local ecosystem.

In the mountainous uplands of northern and central Peru, high above the agricultural lowlands and coastal cities such as Lima, farming communities struggle to make a living on the steep, infertile slopes. Up here, where few crops will grow, farmers have traditionally raised cattle as a way of getting the best economic return from the land. But as the number of cattle has grown in recent years, their impact on the fragile mountain environment has begun to take its toll. The porous mountain soil is compacted by the cattle’s hooves, making it less able to absorb water: when it rains, the water simply runs off the mountain, carrying the topsoil with it. It’s a situation that is causing concern locally and further downstream, where whole communities rely on rivers fed by mountain rainfall for their water supply.

In common with many of the world’s mountainous areas, environmental data is scarce for this region: its remoteness makes setting up and maintaining monitoring networks near impossible. With the lack of a reliable data collection system hampering attempts to fully understand and mitigate damage to the local ecosystem, Wouter Buytaert adopted a new approach. He began working with local people, engaging them directly in data collection. Wouter worked with a local organisation, Nature and Culture International, to recruit local farmers to install rain and river gauges that would monitor the upland wetland areas. The same farmers then collected the data and shared it electronically with researchers at Imperial, who built an evidence base for making informed decisions about how best to manage the impact of farming on the local environment. “This approach is called ‘citizen science’. It’s about using new technology to give people the opportunity to participate in data collection,” Wouter explains. “Today’s technology allows for active participation from non-scientists in scientific data collection and sometimes even analysis.”

Shared findings

With local people investing time and effort into gathering data, Wouter knew that he had to share his findings in a form that would be useful to the community: providing raw data would not be enough. “You have to be careful that people get something in return,” he says. “We scientists are interested in understanding processes and knowing the variability of precipitation, but that doesn’t necessarily help the farmer to decide whether to build a water storage dam or not. You actively need to convert the data into tangible results that will have local impact, otherwise people lose interest after a couple of years.”

With his work in the Andes now well-established, Wouter has seen communities begin to make decisions based on the evidence emerging from his data. “Our findings showed clearly that there are some parts of the landscape that are more important than others for water supply. The upland wetlands, for example, are essential for water supply, but are particularly fragile. We demonstrated that with the data, and people decided to fence those areas off, to stop cattle damaging the soil.”

Sometimes, the question for local communities is whether to return to more traditional farming methods. A once common practice involved diverting water from the river onto porous slopes where it would soak into the soil, which would hold it like a sponge, letting it gradually resurface to irrigate fields further down the slope. As people migrated to the cities many of these “reservoirs” were abandoned. “Local people want to know whether there is any benefit in re-establishing these traditional practices,” says Wouter. “We’re monitoring the impact and establishing which techniques are the most effective. Our data will help people make an informed decision.”

A wicked problem

The complexity of the interaction between human farming practices and the ecosystem that supports them is the kind of challenge that an engineer is well-placed to tackle, says Wouter. “Some people might think an engineer should only be concerned with concrete and steel, and the building of machines. But conceptually, what we’re dealing with isn’t so different. In these mountainous ecosystems we’re faced with a complex system — what we might call a “wicked problem”. It’s the job of an engineer to understand how the parts fit together and to make them compatible. That’s the same whether you’re dealing with the physical parts of a 747 jet or the interaction of physical and social processes in an ecosystem.”

Wouter’s current programme of research is expanding his participatory approach to monitoring mountainous areas in Ethiopia, Nepal and Kyrgyzstan, which face similar environmental challenges to the Andes. Now in its second year, the project is bringing together people from a wide range of backgrounds: engineers, social scientists, geographers and development professionals. “Typically as hydrologists and water resource engineers we would stick with collecting data and running computer models,” says Wouter. “This project goes beyond that. We’re trying to bring two worlds together: scientific thinking and community-based data collection.”

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The Smart Energy Lab is named after Dr Maurice Hancock (Physics 1932, MSc 1933), an alumnus and former staff-member, who in 2006 left a bequest of £1.3 million in recognition of his long relationship with the College, and to advance its research in engineering.

The remit for the Smart Energy Lab is to develop and test new technologies that allow energy generation, particularly renewable energy generation, to be better matched to consumer demand. At its heart is a suite of hardware that can be set up to replicate different energy generation and distribution systems, reproducing the conditions of a real electrical grid on a laboratory scale. The Lab offers an important tool for verifying theoretical models, says Phil Clemow, a research associate based in the Lab: “It’s all very well to develop computer models and to publish simulated results, but in electrical engineering you need real, hardware results to be convincing.”

Plug and play

From the outset, the hardware was designed to be easily customised — a “plug and play” approach that allows researchers to conduct complex experiments without needing to spend time on building the basic infrastructure needed for the work. “The idea was to have as much pre-built as possible,” says Nathaniel Bottrell, a research associate working in the Lab. “The systems are designed to be easily reconfigured — to set up for an experiment takes only a few hours and doesn’t require a background in building hardware. Because so much of the basic infrastructure is built into the Lab, you can come into the Lab and get results in two weeks, without having to spend months building the experimental hardware.”

Recent research at the Lab is exploring how new forms of high voltage DC electrical grids can be used to connect offshore wind farms to national networks, and to link national networks together in a cross-border “super grid”. These super grids would help countries to match energy demand and supply better, and to compensate for fluctuations in energy supply from renewable sources. Phil Clemow explains: “The idea is to link country grids together so that different countries can buy electricity from each other. By clubbing together we can average out peaks and troughs in energy supply from renewable energy sources. It’s not a green technology itself — but it’s an enabler of renewable energy.”

New approaches

Five years after its launch, the Maurice Hancock Lab remains a vital resource for the development of new approaches to energy control. “Dr Hancock’s gift to the College was vital in establishing the Smart Energy Lab,” says Professor Timothy Green (Electrical Engineering 1986), Director of the Lab. “It allowed us to attract other sponsors from industry, and to construct one of the UK’s most sophisticated facilities for research in power systems. Throughout his teaching and research career, electrical power engineering was one of Dr Hancock’s main interests. It is fitting that his generosity lives on in the Maurice Hancock Smart Energy Lab, which has done so much to advance the College’s research in this field.”

Hundreds of metres of wire and cabling loop their way around the Maurice Hancock Smart Energy Lab — creating a laboratory scale simulation of a real-world electricity supply infrastructure, and offering researchers the perfect environment to put their theories to the test.
The newly-launched Brevan Howard Centre for Financial Analysis is supported by one of the largest gifts in business education — a donation of £20.1 million from hedge fund Brevan Howard, on behalf of its co-founder and Imperial alumnus, Alan Howard (Chemical Engineering & Chemical Technology 1986).

The Centre, which was formally launched in September 2014 by George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will address some of the key questions arising from the financial crash of 2008, with financial stability and regulation an early research focus. Other initial research topics include questions of financial structure, looking closely at how banks and markets are balanced in different economies, and analysis of the role of financial economics for non-profit activities, such as healthcare and environmental preservation.

Research at the Centre will be multi-disciplinary, drawing upon Imperial’s strengths in science, technology and innovation, and making full use of the College’s pioneering research on data science.

The Centre aims to draw scholars from around the world through a programme of conferences and other opportunities for collaboration. Researchers at the Centre will also engage with non-academic audiences: policy-makers, financial services professionals and the public. It is a particular objective of the Centre to bridge the gap between academic economists and financial policy-makers.

Speaking at the launch, George Osborne said “This centre will help us both learn from the mistakes of the past, so we can build a safer banking system, and to seize the opportunities of the future, so we lead the world in new financial technologies and innovation.”

The Brevan Howard Centre for Financial Analysis is led by two of the world’s most respected economists: Professor Franklin Allen, formerly of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and Professor Douglas Gale, who came to Imperial from New York University. Professors Allen and Gale are renowned for their pioneering research into financial crises. While they have previously collaborated in their research into financial crises, this is the first time that they have been based at the same institution.

The Brevan Howard Centre will be one of the most important centres for research in the world.”

— Mervyn King, Former Governor, Bank of England

A philanthropic gift to Imperial College Business School is funding a new research hub that will help us to understand and prevent financial crises.
THE SCHISTOSOMIASIS CONTROL INITIATIVE
TRANSFORMING LIVES
IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI

Philanthropic support for Imperial’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative is transforming the lives of people in Rwanda and Burundi, bringing medical treatment for debilitating and life-threatening parasitic diseases, and enabling researchers to learn more about how to manage mass treatment programmes.

In 2007, the Schistosomiasis Control Initiative (SCI) was on track to complete a programme of treatment for parasitic diseases across six countries in Africa. The programme, which had been funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, was hugely successful, bringing treatment to 40 million children and establishing the effectiveness of mass deworming programmes in Africa. But there was bad news: funding to expand the work would not be available from the Foundation. For Alan Fenwick, Professor of Tropical Parasitology at Imperial and Director of the SCI, this decision was disappointing: “Our work had shown that it was possible to successfully treat parasitic disease in some of the poorest countries in sub-Saharan Africa for just 50 cents per person per year. It was our hope to reach many millions more infected people, but we needed major funding to expand our implementation.”

Mass administration
It was at that time that Alan received a telephone call from a UK-based investment company: “They had seen an interview I had given in the Financial Times, and wanted to know whether we were really as cost effective as we had said, and whether we would be interested in meeting them.” That meeting led to a donation of almost $5 million USD to fund a four-year programme to deworm the children of Rwanda and Burundi. The gift was incredibly important for the development of the SCI. For the first time an integrated mass drug administration programme for neglected tropical diseases had been implemented nationally, allowing the SCI team to demonstrate the effectiveness of mass treatment over a prolonged period of time. “We saw Rwanda and Burundi as two case studies that we could use as proof of concept to bring in more resources, and expand our integrated treatment approach to other countries,” says Alan.

The treatment programme in Rwanda and Burundi lasted four years. During that time, the number of children suffering from parasitic diseases dropped significantly: in Burundi, the percentage of children suffering from schistosomiasis fell from 12% to 1.4%, with hookworm prevalence falling from 18% to 2.6%. The programme was also successful in establishing a long-term legacy, equipping the governments of Rwanda and Burundi to lead systematic deworming programmes in the future. “The programme leaders, Dr Onesime Ndayishimiye in Burundi and Dr Eugene Ruberanziza in Rwanda, are now internationally-regarded experts in the control of neglected tropical diseases like schistosomiasis,” says Alan.

“Philanthropic support for Imperial’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative is transforming the lives of people in Rwanda and Burundi, bringing medical treatment for debilitating and life-threatening parasitic diseases, and enabling researchers to learn more about how to manage mass treatment programmes.”

*Schistosomiasis is an acute and chronic disease caused by parasitic trematode flukes that live in specific types of freshwater snails.*

**Our ability to treat these children is reliant on the generosity of our supporters — the pharmaceutical companies that donate the drugs and all those who chose to support our work financially.”**

Alan Fenwick, Professor of Tropical Parasitology at Imperial and Director of the SCI

**A minor miracle**
The work in Rwanda and Burundi had been a major success — but Alan knew that additional funding was needed if the treatment programmes were to continue. With no major sources of funding on the horizon, a minor miracle was needed. That miracle came in the form of the SCI’s philanthropic supporters who together raised over £500,000 for the project. “Enough to fund the entire Burundi programme for two years,” says Alan.

With funding in place, a new programme has already begun in Rwanda and Burundi. Work to understand the prevalence of infection is already underway: over 400 schools in each country are being tested, to assess current levels of schistosomiasis and other parasitic diseases in school-age children. The SCI team is also exploring the possibility of eliminating schistosomiasis within three years in one district in Burundi — something that would have seemed impossible only a few years ago.

**Philanthropic supporters**
According to Alan, the SCI’s success in Rwanda and Burundi would not have been possible without the generosity of philanthropic supporters. “Parasitic infections deprive children of the nutrients they need to thrive. By bringing treatments for intestinal worms and schistosomiasis to the children of Rwanda and Burundi, we have given them the opportunity to live healthier lives. As a case study, these countries show how philanthropic support can transform some of the world’s poorest communities. Our ability to treat these children is reliant on the generosity of our supporters — the pharmaceutical companies that donate the drugs and all those who chose to support our work financially.”
WHAT IS SCHISTOSOMIASIS?

Schistosomiasis is caused by a parasitic worm that lives in the host’s blood vessels. The SCI works with governments in sub-Saharan Africa to run mass-treatment programmes for schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted worm infections — parasitic diseases that are having a devastating effect on the health of over 1.4 billion people in some of the world’s poorest countries.

Largely eliminated from the developed world, diseases like schistosomiasis thrive in the poorest and most marginalised communities, where there is no sanitation and where access to healthcare is limited. They cause chronic ill-health and malnourishment, impairing the development of children, and leaving adults weakened and struggling to support themselves and their families. Left untreated, schistosomiasis can cause serious illness and death. The health, vitality and prosperity of whole communities are compromised by these parasitic diseases.

Schistosomiasis and other common parasitic diseases can be effectively and cheaply treated with modern medicine. The SCI is providing these medicines and the training required to deliver them successfully to communities in 16 African countries and in Yemen. To date, over 100 million people have been treated by the SCI.

MAKING INROADS
A TIMELINE OF THE SCI

2002
$34 MILLION
A grant of $34 million US Dollars by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation establishes the Schistosomiasis Control Initiative.

2003
HALF-A-MILLION
Treatment programmes begin in Uganda, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Zambia and Tanzania. Half a million people are reached.

2004
15 MILLION
Work is expanded in Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali. SCI delivers treatment to 15 million, mainly of primary school age.

2007
43 MILLION
By 2007 the SCI has facilitated the delivery of over 43 million treatments. The programme estimates that it has treated over 20 million people.

2008
HIGHEST HONOUR
Treatment programmes in Rwanda and Burundi reach national coverage.

2009
GLOBAL ELIMINATION
Elimination of schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted parasitic disease as a public health problem in selected countries?

2010
200 MILLION
New UK government funding secured to deliver 200 million treatments over the next four years. New programmes begin in Madagascar, Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan.

2013
100 MILLION
Between 2003 and 2013 SCI deliver over 100 million treatments, primarily to school-aged children.

2014
WIDER REACH
Work starts in Côte D’ivoire, Liberia, Malawi and Mozambique.

4 DRUGS
Praziquantel, albendazole, mebendazole and zithromax as necessary to treat schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, intestinal worms and trachoma.

To find out more about Imperial’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative or to make a donation to support their work, please visit www.imperial.ac.uk/schisto

20 COUNTRIES
Since 2002, the SCI has assisted 20 countries to establish nationwide control of schistosomiasis and intestinal worms. In each country, the SCI has identified the most heavily infected areas, trained local health workers, supported health education for local people, and facilitated mass drug treatment programmes.

4 DRUGS
Praziquantel, albendazole, mebendazole and zithromax as necessary to treat schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, intestinal worms and trachoma.
GIVING IS ABOUT SHOWING MY APPRECIATION... TO ENCOURAGE THE GOOD WORK THAT IS SPARKLING OUT OF IMPERIAL.

— NORMAN BALFOUR (PHYSICS 1970), DONOR
We take great care to ensure that our donor lists are correct and offer our apologies for any inaccuracies. If you see a mistake, please email giving@imperial.ac.uk

VISIONARY SUPPORT

On behalf of Imperial College London, we gratefully recognise the generosity of all those who supported our work in 2013–2014.

In these pages we acknowledge the College’s leading supporters, the generosity of whose contribution is helping to ensure the long-term advancement of our work to harness scientific innovation in the search for solutions to the challenges of the twenty-first century.

MAJOR DONATION STRENGTHENS BRAIN DISEASE RESEARCH

Imperial’s research into neurodegenerative conditions like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s disease is to be transformed, thanks to a £3 million gift from Lily Safra and the Edmond J. Safra Foundation.

The gift establishes a new professorial position, the Edmond and Lily Safra Chair in Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics, and will support the Edmond and Lily Safra Neuroscience Scholars Programme, which offers research fellowships for early career scientists.

Professor Paul Matthews, Head of the Division of Brain Sciences at Imperial, has been named as the first Edmond and Lily Safra Chair. His appointment strengthens a major research programme that is seeking to develop improved methods for diagnosing, monitoring and treating neurodegenerative disease.

“This gift is a major investment in the future of neuroscience research at Imperial,” says Professor Matthews. “It offers the flexibility we need to pursue high-risk, high-return science that will open up new directions in the fight against neurodegenerative conditions. The ‘bench to bedside’ ethos of the programme will bring real patient benefits in the near medium term — but the impact of this gift will be felt for many years to come. We are immensely grateful to Mrs Lily Safra and the Edmond J. Safra Foundation for the generosity of their support.”

— Mrs Lily Safra

© Professor Paul Matthews, Head of the Division of Brain Sciences at Imperial, as the first Edmond and Lily Safra Chair.

Diseases of the brain like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s are only becoming more prevalent, and I know first-hand the suffering they cause to patients and families. I am proud to be funding pioneering brain research...as well as programmes to improve the care of patients and to support their caregivers.”

— Mrs Lily Safra

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<td>– Mr David A. Dangor (Physics 1972) and Dr Judy M. Dangor née Emmett (PhD Botany and Plant Technology 1972)</td>
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* Member of the Imperial 1851 Circle during the year from 1 August 2013 to 31 July 2014, who gave more than £1,000 during that period.

We take great care to ensure that our donor lists are correct and offer our apologies for any inaccuracies. If you see a mistake, please email giving@imperial.ac.uk

† Professor Paul Matthews, Head of the Division of Brain Sciences at Imperial, as the first Edmond and Lily Safra Chair.
ABOUT THE IMPERIAL 1970 CIRCLE

The Imperial 1970 Circle offers its members a commemorative lapel pin. New members receive a lapel pin at the point of application, or as a result of significant gift giving. Each member is assigned a number to denote their membership level. For example, $\#1000$ signifies a membership at the $\#1000$ level. This membership level is based on the member's gift giving history, and may be changed at any time to reflect new levels of giving. Membership levels are determined by the amount of money given by the member. Gift giving is required to maintain membership status. Members who fail to meet the minimum gift giving requirements for their membership level will be dropped from the Circle at the end of the calendar year. The Circle is named after the year in which the 1970s marked a significant period of growth and development for the College.

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President’s Scholar Vishal Vora is studying medicine.  

Brian Gliddon’s generous bequest to the President’s Scholarship Fund will give future generations of young people the opportunity to fulfil their potential at Imperial.

AN ENDURING LEGACY: BRIAN GLIDDON

In later life, Brian Gliddon (Chemical Engineering 1956, PhD 1959) would often speak fondly of his time as a student at Imperial in the 1950s, and of the additional ten undergraduate scholarships a year. The gift has been invested in the College’s endowment fund where it will yield an annuity that will support student scholarships in perpetuity.

Born and educated in the West Country, Brian won a scholarship to study at Imperial, graduating in 1956 with an MSc in Chemical Engineering. He went on to study for a doctorate under Professor Dudley Hewitt, the then head of department, obtaining his PhD in 1959 for his research on hydraulic transport of solids in a vertical pipe. Brian went on to work in the electricity generation industry, and prior to his retirement held a senior post in the Central Electricity Generating Board. Settling in Southampton, Brian became a keen gardener, his love of flowers inherited from his father, who was head gardener at Endsleigh Cottage, a country residence of the Duke of Bedford, situated in Devon’s Tamar Valley. “We are profoundly grateful to Brian Gliddon for remembering Imperial in his will,” says Angela Bowen, Director of Development at Imperial. “His generosity will allow more talented young people than ever before to receive a scholarship. It is a fitting legacy for a man whose belief in the value of education remained throughout his life. His friends would describe him as a man who didn’t like a lot of fuss — but his quiet generosity deserves to be recognised, and quietly celebrated.”

Legacy gifts

Imperial College London is honoured to receive legacy gifts from the following 2013–14:

– The estate of Dr Brian J. Gliddon (Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry 1956, PhD 1959)
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ANNUAL FUNDRAISING REPORT 2013–14

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IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON ANNUAL FUNDRAISING REPORT 2013–14
Rebecca Simpson is an Undergraduate President’s Scholar studying Electronics and Information Engineering.

She is also the 2014 UK Young Engineer of the Year, having wowed the judges with her retro arcade game aimed to help young people to revise STEM subjects.

With your help we can continue to attract students like Rebecca whose passion for learning is irrepressible. If you believe that talented minds should be nurtured, please remember Imperial College London in your Will and help future students advance to the next level.

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