

Templeton Bulletin



March 2006

College Collaboration in West Africa

Templeton Fellows, Gerd Islei and Dorothy Cooke, attended the West Africa Investment Forum in Abuja from 20–22 February, sponsored by the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) and the Nigerian Government. The invitation to participate in the Forum (for which discounted rates were made available to Oxford alumni) resulted from discussions with CBC's Managing Director, Steve Godfrey, over the last six months about collaborative possibilities, particularly in leadership development.

The three-day Forum attracted some 300 delegates and offered an ideal opportunity to meet leaders from throughout the region and gain a greater understanding of the challenges facing government and business leaders alike and to discuss their executive development needs. A display of information about Oxford's executive programmes attracted lively interest particularly in the Oxford Advanced Management Programme and the Oxford Strategic Leadership Programme.

While in Nigeria Dorothy and Gerd also took the opportunity to host a dinner for alumni in the region and enjoyed a delightful evening with a group including alumni of the Oxford Advanced Management Programme, the Oxford Strategic Leadership Programme and the Oxford Senior Executive Finance Programmes, spanning the years 1988 to 2005.

For additional details, contact Dorothy.cooke@templeton.ox.ac.uk or Gerd.Islei@templeton.ox.ac.uk or Steven.godfrey@cbcglobelink.org
Websites: CBC website: www.cbcglobelink.org
Executive education: www.sbs.oxford.edu
Templeton College: www.templeton.ox.ac.uk

2 March 2006

Oxbridge Exchange

A graduate student exchange visit with Clare Hall, Cambridge, is planned for the weekend of 29–30 April, reports MSC student and GCR events co-ordinator, Maja Korica. 'The aim is to forge longer-term ties with a Cambridge college. We want to introduce Clare students to Oxford and Templeton and in turn get a chance to visit Cambridge in the company of students that we have already met.' Clare is – like Templeton – a graduate college but is larger (over 300 students) and multidisciplinary. 'Clare students are very enthusiastic,' comments Maja. 'Already some twenty have signed up.' It is expected that some thirty Clare students will eventually take part in the visit, which will kick off with a tour of Oxford on the Saturday morning, followed by a barbecue in the afternoon and a party in the evening, with a punting expedition and a picnic next day. In return, a similar number of Templeton students will visit Cambridge on the weekend of 17 June during the Cambridge May festivities. For more information contact maja.korica@sbs.ox.ac.uk.

27 March 2006

Praise for New Student Facility

Templeton has redesigned the old student research area in John Clement Hall to create a more attractive and congenial environment in which college students can pursue their studies next door to their rooms. The brainchild of IT manager Steve Harvey and expertly crafted by Clive Perry and his staff, the new facility is panelled with light wood and dotted with plants to generate an airy and relaxed ambience in which students can 'hot-desk' at a range of work-stations. Reaction has been enthusiastic. 'It is terrific,' says Junior Dean, Tan Yang, 'and the only thing to be added is some air conditioning for summer.' DPhil student Michael Smets agrees: 'It has gone down really well. Before it was seen as the province of doctoral students, now students on all programmes use it. You almost have to fight to get seats!'

27 March 2006

Using the Evidence

Knowledge to Action: Evidence-Based Health Care in Context, edited by Fellow in Organisational Behaviour, Sue Dopson, and co-editor, Louise Fitzgerald, received warm praise in the British Medical Journal of 25 February. 'Anyone with even a passing interest in how and why changes in health care succeed, or fail, could do far worse than take a look at this book,' wrote Matt Williams, a specialist registrar in clinical oncology.

'Based on more than 50 studies of attempts to implement evidence-based health care in different NHS settings, it provides a comprehensive and thoughtful review of the evidence about using the evidence in evidence-based medicine (EBM). The picture it paints – of a fragmented set of professionals, often with different priorities and interpretations of the evidence – will be familiar to anyone who has sat through any hospital or practice meeting. This book is for anyone who is interested in why people don't agree on the evidence, and how to try to achieve some common ground for the good of patients. Although written as an academic book, its readability and numerous case studies allow it to drift close to being a "how to" manual for implementing EBM.' Text of the review of Knowledge to Action (which was published by OUP in 2005) is available on the <http://bmj.bmjournals.com> site.

21 March 2006

New Readership

Fellow in Human Resource Management, Ian Kessler, has been appointed University Reader in Employment Relations. 'I am delighted to receive the Readership,' Ian comments. 'as I feel it reflects the continued importance of Employment Relations as a field of study at Oxford and provides a firm foundation for further research and teaching in my established areas of interest.' Ian has taught for many years on a range of Oxford Management Studies degree programmes, including Negotiation Skills on the MBA, Employment Relations on undergraduate degree courses and Human Resource Management on the MSc in Management Research. He has also been actively involved in a number of major research projects, most recently with Paul Heron in a study of changing job roles in the public sector. For more information on Ian's career and interests see www.templeton.ox.ac.uk.

27 March 2006

Happy Return

The College enjoyed a lively guest dining night on Thursday 2 March. The Dean, Professor Michael Earl hosted Dr Michael Spence, the head of Oxford's Social Science Division. Other guests included Lucy Czakan, owner of the Neo Vitae coaching business; the financial adviser to governments and state banks, John Howell; Jiorgis Kritsotakis, senior consultant at Accenture; and Dak Liyanearachchi, Dunhumby's global business director. Two of the guests are involved in the Strategic Renewal Research Programme run by Senior Research Fellow, Marc Thompson – Eric Allen, European Patent Office manager and Peter Lednor, innovation manager at Shell Global Solutions.

The evening also saw the return to the College after many years of Joe Egerton as another guest of the Dean. Joe who obtained an Oxford MPhil in Management Studies in 1984, was Junior Dean of the college in 1984/85. His career since has included a spell as economics director of the British Chambers of Commerce and as head of strategy services for the Spicers Consulting Group. For five years he ran Justice in Financial Services, which successfully campaigned for the present independent Financial Services Tribunal. He was awarded the Robert Schumann Silver Medal for Services to Europe in 1985. Joe currently runs Ignacity, where he is developing new financial planning approaches.

For more details of college guest nights contact Martina.Siertsema@templeton.ox.ac.uk

3 March 2006

Dean Visits India

The Chancellor of the University, Lord Patten of Barnes, recently visited India to promote British universities in general and Oxford University in particular. He met with alumni groups in Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai. College Dean, Professor Michael Earl, joined the Chancellor in Mumbai in order to develop corporate relations and meet Oxford alumni in this thriving city.

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