Sir John Templeton Dies at 95
Wednesday, July 09, 2008

The College was saddened to learn of the death of Sir John Templeton on 8 July in Nassau.
In 1983 Sir John gave the then Oxford Centre for Management Studies (OCMS) an initial $5 million to advance the cause of business management studies in Oxford. Sir John had been a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol College in the 1930’s and former Director of OCMS, Uwe Kitzinger, met him in late 1982 and interested him in founding an Oxford college devoted to management. In 1984 OCMS was renamed Templeton College in memory of Sir John’s parents and twelve years later Templeton became a full royal charter graduate college of the University.

Sir John had established the Templeton Growth Fund in 1954, a hugely successful mutual fund. This was sold to Franklin Resources for $440 million in 1992. He used much of his wealth to create the John Templeton Foundation, which currently has an endowment of approximately $1.5 billion. The Foundation exists to serve as a philanthropic catalyst for research on what scientists and philosophers call the “Big Questions”, particularly of science, religion and human purpose. The Foundation gives out some $70 million in annual grants including for the Foundation’s annual, world-renowned Templeton Prize worth £1 million.

Sir John’s benefactions to Templeton College also were conceived as catalysts – for new activities and reaching out to the business community. Examples include seedcorn monies used to fund new research centres, the Templeton Leadership Prize, experiments in on-line dissemination and initiatives in fundraising.

Dean and Head of the College, Professor Michael Earl, comments “Sir John retained his interest in the College and we have valued this commitment from him and his son, Dr John (Jack) M. Templeton. Many of us have benefited in our academic work from his initial benefaction which gave us confidence to expand in size and ambition. We are proud that as we merge with Green College next term, with the recent support of Sir John, that the merged college will continue to bear the family name – Green Templeton”.

Congratulations to Rosemary Stewart
Thursday, July 24, 2008

Rosemary Stewart, Honorary Fellow of the Templeton College, has just been promoted to membership of the Royal Society of Medicine - which, Rosemary assures us, provides "a very handsome membership certificate". Rosemary was previously an Associate Member of the Society and it is unusual for a lay person to become a full member.

Rosemary joined the Royal Society of Medicine when she became a lay member of one of Oxford’s Research Ethics committees as she thought it would help her to understand the medical research that came before the Ethics Committee.

The College congratulates Rosemary on receiving this honour and for providing this distinguished example of the meeting of management and medicine.

Michael Earl to act as Pro-VC for Development and External Affairs
Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Professor Michael Earl, who is retiring as Dean of Templeton College at the end of this academic year, has accepted an invitation to take over the role of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development and External Affairs) for the University of Oxford from 1 October, while the University begins the process of appointing a successor to Dr Jon Dellandrea, who has resigned from the post.

Read the University of Oxford press announcement http://www.ox.ac.uk/media/news_stories/2008/080729_2.html
Recognition of Distinction
Thursday, July 31, 2008

Four College Fellows were awarded new titles in the University’s recent Distinctions announcement.

- Sue Dopson becomes Professor of Organisational Behaviour
- David Feeny becomes Professor of Information Management
- Paul Montgomery becomes Reader in Evidence-Based Intervention in Social Policy
- Linda Scott becomes Professor of Marketing

In his message of congratulations the Dean, Michael Earl, emphasised the importance of these awards not only for each of the Fellows but also for the College.

New book shows how to face the future in turbulent times
Monday, August 04, 2008

In an increasingly turbulent and unpredictable world, leaders in businesses and other organisations need to find ways of dealing with complexity and uncertainty. A new book, co-edited by Fellow in Strategy Rafael Ramirez and Associate Fellow Kees van der Heijden, together with John W. Selsky, can help them to do just that.

Business Planning for Turbulent Times: New methods for applying scenarios, is published by Earthscan in August 2008. It describes how scenarios were first introduced and then developed as a business planning tool, and draws on examples from both large corporations and small firms, municipalities and large, inter-governmental organisations.

‘Combines practical relevance with academic rigour. I commend it alike to executives and scholars—indeed to anyone with a serious interest in thinking about the future.’ Sandy Pepper, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Read more about Business Planning for Turbulent Times: New methods for applying scenarios http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=4821

Oxford University 2008 Alumni Weekend: Combined Green and Templeton Alumni Day
Saturday, 20 September, 2008

A beautiful sunny early autumn day provided a wonderful introduction to Templeton alumni making their first visit to our new location just north of the old Radcliffe Infirmary site on the Woodstock Road and we all particularly enjoyed Michael Pirie, Green College’s Head Gardener’s tour through the numerous quads and lawns framed by the generous and colourful herbaceous boarders he tends with great dedication and expertise.

Alumni, fellows, students and staff from both Green College and Templeton College enjoyed combining for the day of lectures and introductions which includes insights into the diverse yet complementary range of subjects and interest our future as Green Templeton College offers.

Lecture Programme:

From Richard Doll’s 50,000 British Doctors to UK Biobank’s 500,000 British people
Professor Rory Collins, Co-director of the Clinical Trials Service Unit (CTSU), and BHF Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Fellow of Green College

http://www.green.ox.ac.uk/academic/warden-fellows/profiles-of-governing-body-fellows.html#c300

Business planning in turbulent times: New methods of applying scenarios
Dr Rafael Ramirez, Fellow in Strategic Management, Templeton College

http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/news/archives/Main/Managing+in+turbulent+times.htm

140 years of Astronomy at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford - once the most eminent in Europe
Mr Charles Barclay, Director, Blackett Observatory, Marlborough College, Academic Visitor in Oxford Astrophysics Department and Member of the Common Room, Green College

http://www.gtc.ox.ac.uk/about-gtc/history-and-architecture/the-radcliffe-observatory.html

Collaboration: a new form of education for sustainable markets
Miss Carmen Juravle, Research Officer, Bath University, Alumna of Green College and winner of the 2007 Oxford Leadership Prize awarded by Said Business School and Templeton College

http://www.oxfordleadershipprize.org
Graduate (MPhil and DPhil) and Executive (SMDP) alumni from 70s exchanged recollections of our early OCMS years reminding us of our founding history while catching up with mix of DPhil, MLitt, MSc and MBA graduates from the 80s and 90s, and more recent members from both graduate and executive programmes such as the Oxford Strategic Leadership Programme, with the usual international representation stretching from Nigeria to Florida, Belgium, France, Germany and Switzerland to Berkshire, Cumbria, Surrey and Warwickshire.

Michael Earl used his current research interest in Mergers and Acquisitions as the framework for reviewing Templeton’s recent developments: the transfer of Executive Education to the Saïd Business School in 2005 and the last 2 years of merger planning with Green College. And Colin Bundy, Warden of Green College and Principal elect of Green Templeton concluded the afternoon with a short preview of plans for the first years of Green Templeton before a final opportunity to chat to friends, new and old, while enjoying a celebratory glass of champagne in the fading late summer sun on the immaculate Green College lawn.

The GTC “wedding” celebration
Friday, 26 September, 2008

The launch of Green Templeton College was celebrated in style on Wednesday evening in the presence of the University of Oxford’s Chancellor Lord Patten, the Vice Chancellor Dr John Hood and the College Visitor, Lord Bingham. It was a splendid occasion but also a family affair. Dr Jack Templeton, Stephen Barclay, present and former Fellows, Associate Fellows, Deans and Presidents, and their partners, were there – and of course similar members of Green, including the current Warden Colin Bundy and Lord Walton, a former Warden (1983-1989). It seemed rather like a marriage feast from the beginning of the evening – the encounters with members of the family not seen for a while, the exclamations about change and about continuity, the overtures to strangers shortly to be part of the family. Then the references to courtship and weddings started in the speeches and were taken up around the tables. It is a marriage, this merger of two Colleges to make a new one. There have been ups and downs along the way: exciting discoveries about the prospective partner, worries about the suitability and practicality of the match, thoughts about what we might gain, regrets for what we will certainly lose - but now we have achieved the launch of Green Templeton College and the prospects for a new life are exciting.

Starting the evening with a glass of champagne in the Observatory building I was immediately in new surroundings. This was not like the former home of Templeton College. But the Green Fellows were looking around in some state of astonishment too: their old home has been transformed into a home fit for the new College. (Well, at least partially. We are going to be short of space and will be challenged to do something about that.)

The smell of new paint was literally in the air, rooms had been transposed, new parts opened up… I still have to get to thoroughly know all of the site and the buildings of GTC but what I saw on Wednesday evening in the Radcliffe Observatory was somewhere with style, with a view outwards but space within for us to mingle. The buildings induced a bit of a sense of history but the occasion (and the smell of paint) brought thoughts of new beginnings.

Our Principal Elect Colin Bundy launched proceedings. The Chancellor then spoke with enthusiasm and in English rather than ceremonial Latin, of the new College. He also marked the occasion by awarding ‘Radcliffe Fellowships’ (an innovation, a new kind of fellowship created by Green Templeton College to distinguish special supporters) to Dr Akinori Kawasaki and Mr Sudhir Choudhrie. Dr Jack Templeton spoke of his medical background as well as his father’s connection with Oxford and benefaction to Templeton College. He did seem to embody the coming together of different disciplines in GTC. (I am starting to call it “GTC”. I wonder what name will gain currency?) Michael Earl, who has worked so hard on the merger, continued with the marriage metaphors. The evening ended with a fireworks display – suitably celebratory and another metaphor for the intellectual sparks that I hope will fly around the new College.

I can’t begin to give a roll call of those attending. I’ve been part of Templeton College for 23 years now and it was a delight to see members from all of that period and before. I gather about 250 people from both ‘families’ sat down in the marquee on the lawn. I was really glad to be reminded that the Green side of the family is not composed entirely of strangers: I’ve got to know a few during the courtship period, but there on Wednesday were also two Green Fellows I have worked with in the past. We do have natural connections. I’m waiting now to see what new connections I can make, and where those may lead. New conversations, new ideas, new projects? Certainly a new place to meet, and new people – colleagues, students, visitors - to meet there.

Elizabeth Howard, Fellow
26 September 2008
On Tuesday, members of Templeton College and SBS gathered in the Nautilus Room to farewell Jenny Roberts. Jenny has worked at the College for nearly 21 years, having spent the latter part of her career in the College library.

Michael Earl, Dean of Templeton, described Jenny as an outstanding servant to both the College and the School, not only for her amazing knowledge of the needs of students, staff and fellows, and her willingness to always go the extra mile to meet these needs, but also for her community spirit and contribution to our environment. Indeed, outside her library role, Jenny will be remembered for keeping a watchful eye on the garden, particularly when the orchids were flowering, as well as for her part in designing and looking after the Nautilus Herb Garden and for helping to organise and accompanying the annual carol singing.

Jenny’s level of knowledge and experience, her professional approach to her work and her sage advice has made her a valued friend and confidant to all at the College. She has touched many lives in her time here and will be missed greatly. She will no doubt take this opportunity to pursue some of her many and varied interests, particularly her gardening, and we wish her the very best for her retirement.

With so many Egrove friends gathered together Michael Earl, and Gay Haskins, SBS’s Dean of Executive Education, also took the opportunity to say final farewells reflecting on shared experiences at Egrove Park. Manon Bradley joined in on behalf of the Major Projects Association, reminding us of MPAs Templeton roots and of our many happy and productive years of collaboration.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many members who have contributed to the news items, and our other publications, in recent years and made it possible for us all to share our news and views frequently and regularly.

Dorothy Cooke
07 October 2008