New GTC research programme asks: what is the future of work?

How will we all work in the future? Who will make up the workforce? And where will we all work: at home or in an office?

A new GTC interdisciplinary research programme, the Future of Work (FOW), is bringing together diverse GTC, and greater Oxford, students and Fellows to explore why and how work is changing and impacting societies.

The subject of ‘work’ is being broadly defined to ensure its relevance to a wide range of research interests and the programme is being developed according to broad sub-themes which have developed out of GTC community interests. These include identity and work, innovation and change in work, and work boundaries.

The programme was officially launched on 11 February with an open forum workshop and seminar presentation by John Martin, Director of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD, which focused on how the financial crisis has changed labour around the world.

The workshop was attended by students and GTC fellows who presented ideas about what is meant by ‘work’ and whether it refers only to paid labour or also to other activities that are important to life, but are unpaid.

Lead GTC Fellows involved in the programme are Ian Kessler, Martin Seeleib-Kaiser, Marc Thompson and Robert Walker.

Professor Seeleib-Kaiser explains: “The programme will be developed through a process that moves from the grass-roots, upwards, building on ongoing GTC research interests, and providing an outlet for student-fellow collaboration on ‘work’-related research. “Participants will have contact with Fellows and students for inspiration and support, and the programme will give aspiring researchers unique publication opportunities.”

The programme has just announced the annual Ngo Future of Work Prize which will be awarded annually to an aspiring researcher who has contributed significantly to the growing body of knowledge enabling people to understand the future of work.

As In Transit goes to press, final preparations are being made for the next FOW event on 10 June when Professor Dr Guy Standing, Professor of Economic Security, University of Bath and the former Director of the Socio-Economic Security Programme at the UN-ILO, Geneva, presents Work after globalization: building occupational citizenship at GTC.

Visit www.gtc.ox.ac.uk/academic/research-centres/fow.html for more information.
OF STUFFED PENGUINS AND OTHER MEMORABLE MOMENTS

It is midway through Trinity Term as I write. Spring is gracefully making way for summer: the wisteria blossom in Lankester Quad, so sumptuous this year, has begun to fall. And this sequence of seasons makes me acutely aware that this is my final termly message.

I’ve been asked certain questions quite often in recent weeks. “What are you going to do next?” is one. Well, the only thing that Eve and I have definitely decided is that we shall spend part of each year in Cape Town, but the bulk of it in our Oxford home. We’re fortunate to have a base in each place, and enjoy them both in their very different ways. We both have writing projects which will take a lot of time and attention.

Some of the other FAQs at the moment are: “Will you like retirement?” “Will you miss the college?” and “Have you enjoyed the last four years?” Honest answers are: I don’t know, I’ve never tried it; yes, of course, and yes, very much.

In a few weeks, at the Garden Party, the Nautilus Awards to students and the Principal’s Prize to a member of staff will be presented. But these events always mean that some achievements or endeavours are overlooked. So here is my opportunity to grant a special form of recognition to members of the College and moments that will linger in the memory.

Least Expected Governing Body paper: Before the merger, the GB at both colleges debated what the new head of house would be called. Green College received a wonderful essay on the etymology and semantics of the terms Dean, Master, President, Principal, Provost and Wardan — the more unlikely as it was written by a Reader in Clinical Pharmacology!

Best Idea Not Acted Upon: Too late in the process for the idea to be treated seriously, a Fellow suggested that the head of house of GTC be called the Observer. I loved the associations with the iconic building at the heart of the College — and also the hint that the role of head of the college would be to chart the movements of the stars (a.k.a. “fellows” and “students”).

Most Appreciated Architectural Feature: The demolition of some very ordinary buildings on the Radcliffe Infirmary site has provided some stunning views of the Observatory tower. (At a meeting with the University’s Estates Department we proposed that the entire area recently cleared of buildings be restored to open parkland, and provided a helpful aerial photograph, c.1920, to demonstrate how aesthetically pleasing this would be.)

This award is not to be confused with that for

Least Appreciated Architectural Feature: (This important award is sponsored by Romola Coope.) Each year, at the time of the College Ball, a row of Portaloos is installed directly outside the window of the office of the PA to the Principal. Empirical evidence suggests that the warmer the weather the longer they remain in place...

Most Effective Presentation of Argument by Students: This was such a competitive category, that it is necessary to award two prizes. The runner up: when the GCR petitioned for the central heating to be turned on earlier in Michaelmas term, they made their case by delivering a letter, and a stuffed penguin, to the offices of the Principal and Bursar. The winner is the student who lugged a broken ironing board to his meeting with the Principal as Exhibit A in his case against the facilities in Napier House.

But that is enough about the past. Let me conclude with a glance ahead. GTC has the capacity to develop very rapidly: not merely in the sense of successful fund-raising (important although this will be), but to develop also in terms of establishing its academic identity. It will continue to invest in student scholarships and in college-based academic activities. It will not be long before “ex-Green” and “ex-Templeton” cease to be significant labels, much less sources of division. The new building will add to the buzz and business on the main site.

However dynamic such developments might be, the college will surely retain what makes it such a welcoming and inclusive community. It will continue to attract academically outstanding fellows and students, who share a broad commitment to human welfare in the contemporary world. It will bring them together in an atmosphere of relaxed and informal goodwill: one which sustains intellectual exchanges, the growth of ideas, and the forging of friendship.

It is a future that the College can contemplate with confidence – not least because it can draw upon the wisdom and commitment of Sir David Watson, who takes office as Principal in October. It has been an honour and privilege to serve the college, and I wish David every happiness and success in GTC and in Oxford.

Principals message signed by David, the new Principal.

Garden leave in Japan

A recent first visit to Japan provided GTC gardener Michael Pirie with the opportunity to learn more about the country’s distinctive and stylized gardens.

Michael’s host was Keiichi Matsudaira, a Japanese lecturer in the English landscape garden at Denki University in Tokyo; the two met when Keiichi spent a year as a visiting research fellow at Balliol College a couple of years ago.

Michael explains: “He had been very taken by the College garden when he visited and had attended part of my course on Oxford College Gardens at Rewley House. He subsequently invited me to Japan and proved to be a most obliging host and acted as guide, interpreter and friend.

“Quite apart from the distinctive form of their gardens, with the incipient cherry blossoms, I experienced a totally new landscape, both urban, rural and mountainous, enjoyed many culinary delights, and at my request attended the spring Sumo wrestling tournament in Osaka,” adds Michael.

Spring is gracefully making way for summer: the wisteria blossom in Lankester Quad, so sumptuous this year, has begun to fall.
In the wake of the Haiti earthquake, medical organization Médecins du Monde sent doctors to help badly injured survivors. One of the medics who signed up for the humanitarian mission was GTC Fellow Professor Christopher Bulstrode, a specialist surgeon at Oxford’s John Radcliffe Hospital.

Over three weeks he performed up to five hundred operations in an effort to help what he describes as “a tragic situation”.

Based in the shattered capital Port-au-Prince, he carried out dozens of small operations a day from dawn until dusk. The hospital had collapsed in the earthquake, so conditions were less than sterile and his patients ran a severe risk of infection, including gangrene.

Though Chris has been a surgeon in other disaster-affected areas in the past, and spent six months in a field hospital in Helmand province in Afghanistan, he described Haiti as a “complete tragedy”, saying, “I’ve never seen anything to compare with this... it was a huge undertaking.” Next steps include fitting artificial limbs for the 3000 amputees.

His aim while in Haiti was to “try and just get people safe again” and get them out of the makeshift hospital. He hopes to go back at some point to help and “see the closure” of the tragedy.

GTC ALUMNI PLEDGE RECORD SUM TO ANNUAL FUND

The GTC Telethon in March raised pledges totalling an amazing £54,000 towards the GTC annual fund – the highest amount ever pledged to an Oxford graduate college in a telephone campaign.

Ellie Brace, GTC Annual Fund Manager who oversaw the campaign, said: “We are tremendously encouraged by the warm response that we have had from our alumni and friends, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who decided to take part.”

“It has also been a delight to work with such a talented and enthusiastic group of students on this campaign.”

The GTC student callers were: Lauren Bean, Kupela Clarke, Kuumuori Ganle, Putul Gupta, Carol Hlela, Zhongwei Huang, Hema Letchamanan, Samson Mundia, and Jingyang Teo.

£1.25 MILLION CORE FUNDING FOR REUTERS INSTITUTE

The Thomson Reuters Foundation has renewed its core funding for the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ) for 2011-13 after its initial five-year period.

The new grant will allow RISJ to create a new post focused on building its research funding and activity.

Dr David Levy, RISJ Director, comments: “The agreement demonstrates a vote of confidence in RISJ at a time when the issues being tackled – about the future of journalism – are more topical and pressing than ever.”

The Institute’s key ambitions for the coming year include developing a new international research programme that combines a reputation for academic rigour with influence on policy and practice, reinforcing the alumni network to engage the over 400 former journalist fellows in our work, and strengthening RISJ’s global presence, partnerships and impact.

Plans are underway to expand the pilot phase of a research project, The Changing Business of Journalism and its Role in Democracy, which has been funded by a £30k grant from the GTC college based academic initiatives fund. Building on a fruitful international workshop in February, RISJ intends to produce a publication later this year and prepare a grant application for a larger two to three-year international study on this fascinating and ever-expanding topic.
Lauren Bean (DPhil Social Policy) is one of a handful of people who can claim to have first spotted the potential of Barack Obama before he embarked on the glittering political career which took him to the White House as the first black President of the United States of America.

The support of Lauren and her Chicago-based family is highlighted in a new book which looks at the early days of Obama’s political career and the hard work of political campaigning.

Mr and Mrs Grassroots: How Barack Obama, Two Bookstore Owners, and 300 Volunteers Did It (Elevator Group, 2010) is written by John Presta, the co-owner of an independent Chicago bookstore and another early supporter of Obama.

“My family was one of the first families to support Obama for the Senate, which of course eventually led to the Presidency,” explains Lauren.

“When we attended some of the first meetings, barely anyone would be there. There would be ten people in a local community room with Obama and sometimes Michelle and just a box of doughnuts.”

The photograph here is from a big fundraiser that the Bean and Presta families held for the Obama Senate campaign in July 2003, raising $250,000. Obama came and spoke to 75 people.

Lauren recalls: “He and I talked one on one for about 15 minutes about my academic career. I then asked him if he was going to run for President and he smiled and said ‘Ok, ok Lauren, let’s get though the Senate first’.

When Obama announced his Presidential campaign, Lauren was one of just a few volunteers initially, helping at the campaign headquarters from 6pm after a day at work.

“It was fun! Everyone was so committed to Obama. He and/or Michelle would often stop by. There was no sense of hierarchy. Obama wanted the campaign to run like a grassroots organization. So everything was informal, we were all on first name terms. It was really an amazing time!”

A full-sized male skeleton called Napoleon Bonyparts is playing a key role in GTC’s outreach activities as the College continues to find ways to connect with the Oxfordshire population.

He is pictured here with Senior Joan and Richard Doll Fellow Dr Laurence Leaver on his way to a National Science Week event at Windmill School in Headington, where they met 60 students of the sixth form, as part of National Science Week in March.

The appropriately named Bonyparts has all the muscle origins and insertions painted on one half, and all of his joints are articulated with his larger joints being detachable. A resident of the equipment library, he is accessible during library opening times or out of hours by arrangement with any one of the Doll Fellows.

SCHWARZENEGGER SUMMIT

In February, Associate Fellow Derrick Gosselin met Governor of California Arnold Schwarzenegger at his production house in Santa Monica.

Dr Gosselin, who specializes in international strategizing and futuristic thinking, visited the Governor as part of a delegation from Flanders for a discussion focusing on ICT, biotechnology and energy. The main objectives of the visit were to learn about entrepreneurship, new trends in innovation and management, and to build international cooperation between world-class research institutions and government agencies from Flanders and California.

They also discussed the political challenges involved in implementing measures to influence climate change, including the importance of technology and of political leadership and vision.

Politics has been dominating the news in the UK recently because of the General Election, in which the first-ever live televised debates between the three main party leaders created a huge amount of interest.

Ex-Reuters Fellow and current GTC DPhil student Richard Danbury was the Deputy Editor of the BBC’s Prime Ministerial Debate programme broadcast on 29 April. Richard has suspended his DPhil studies for two terms to work on the programme.
Clothes which are wearable but no longer wanted by members of the GTC community are helping to support homeless people in Oxford.

Regular ‘clothes drops’ to The Gatehouse project in St Michael’s Street have been made over the last two years. Instead of being discarded, donated clothes are collected by the Porters’ Lodge and taken down to The Gatehouse by IT Manager Dominic Bown. Serini Murugasen, GCR Charities and Development Officer, who currently organizes the drop, explains: “This is an easy way to give back to the Oxford community and a great way to clear cupboard space and help others!”

The Gatehouse is a charity in Oxford which provides food, shelter and company to the city’s homeless and poorly-housed population and relies on donations and volunteers. Visit www.oxfordgatehouse.org for more information about the project and details of how to volunteer.

From rowing to golf, and athletics to soccer, GTC has shown a real winning streak over the last year across a range of sports. Here are the highlights.

In that most traditional of Oxford sports, rowing, Green Templeton Boat Club crews qualified for Torpids for the first time this year and both the men’s and women’s crews qualified for races. The March bad weather meant that GTBC crews only raced on the third and fourth days of the event but men and women represented the College very well.

In another piece of exciting news for College rowers, former Templeton alumni and rowers Kevin Burke (1991 MSc Management Industrial Relations) and Marc Desmidt (1991 MPhil Management) have made a generous donation of £20,000 to GTBC. Kevin says: “Marc and I were delighted when we were given the opportunity to support GTBC. It reminded us of our memorable time at Templeton College in 1991 when Marc was the captain of the 1st (and only!) VIII, and I was the slightly heavy but focused cox!”

Club President Lena Mass adds: “The GTBC is so grateful for the donation and support for the Club’s future growth. The funds will enhance equipment provision, offer additional rowing opportunities to members, and ensure the sustainability of the Club.” The donation will finance a new 4+ boat – to be formally named in Kevin’s honour later this year – and indoor rowing machines, or ergometers.

Karen Anderton (DPhil Geography and the Environment) was awarded a Blue for rugby following her selection for the Varsity Match last March which was won by the Cambridge team. Karen has been playing rugby for 12 years and has represented Reading Ladies since 2005.

Jennifer Wilson (MSc in Environmental Change and Management) has been awarded an Oxford Half Blue for Modern Pentathlon in the Varsity Match.

Though she had competed in other sports in the past including running, swimming, shooting, and riding, this was Jennifer’s first pentathlon, which makes her win all the more special. Jennifer very simply summed up her feelings on her win saying, “I was thrilled to hit more Cambridge girls in the fencing than hit me!” Katie Eayrs (Medicine) also competed.

In the Soccer Cuppers, the GTC football team made it to the competition semi-finals after winning an eventful match against Worcester 3–0.

Though GTC unfortunately lost the semi-final to Exeter College, captain Joe Feyertag believes their triumphant win against Worcester was an achievement in itself with their playing a lesson in team-spirit and fine football skills.

The team members were: Joe Feyertag (Captain), Koichi Mikami, Andrew Symington, Mau Rivera, Juan Andres Garcia Alvarez, Will Baker, Fer Block, Nathaniel Pimlott, Massimo Massiero, Nelson Oppong, and Mario Notari.

Gillian Kinnear (DPhil Surgery) captained the University Ladies Golf team to an incredibly closely fought Varsity Match in March at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club.

The final three matches all went to the 18th green but though they went up in all the matches to the turn, Oxford came away with only a half point. The final score was 5.5 – 3.5 to Cambridge.

Gillian has captained the Ladies University Golf Team for the past year and was awarded a Full Blue for the second year in a row. Last year she also received a University Sports Award and a GTC Nautilus Award for her sporting achievements.
GTC students have been working and playing hard again this year. Here Mel Bunce, GCR President, highlights just some of the successes.

The first years have a saying: ‘Trinity term is Oxford on speed’. In this intense eight-week period, the highlights of the year’s social calendar – summer balls, garden parties and punting – vie for attention with the most rigorous demands of the academic calendar – essays, final exams and thesis deadlines.

Trinity term at Green Templeton College is no different. This May and June, we hosted two of our biggest and most impressive annual college events, alongside a feast of academic, social, sporting and welfare activities.

On 15 and 16 May, the student-run Human Welfare Conference showcased the best of graduate research from GTC and around the UK. Now in its third year, the 2010 conference theme was Paved With Good Intentions? The Road Ahead for Humanitarianism and the opening remarks were given by renowned Oxford academic Paul Collier.

On Saturday of 8th week (19 June – just after you read this!) the term will end on an absolute high with our annual summer ball. This year’s theme is Diamonds Are Forever and it promises to be a truly glamorous night of Bond-worthy entertainment, food, drinks and atmosphere for all GTC students, staff, fellows and friends. There may still be time to book your ticket at www.gtcball.com

Alongside these events, the GCR organized a wide range of activities with something for everyone. On Sundays, our hugely popular welfare brunches provided students with delicious free food in a relaxed atmosphere. Tuesdays saw the continuation of the stimulating and social discussion group, ‘Welfare and Wine’. And college formal dinners, every Wednesday and Thursday, were followed by special evenings in the bar. We also hosted two black-tie exchange dinners with Merton and St Anthony’s College; went punting dressed as pirates; held a fundraising party for the World Wildlife Fund; ran a seminar session on writing exam answers; and much, much more.

These Trinity activities built on the successes of Hilary term, where we raised over £1500 for victims of the Haiti and Chilean earthquakes, ran a self-defence class, had a career session on aid work, held LGBT events, organized a trip to Stratford Upon Avon, and hosted a number of very lively parties – most notably, an 80s themed bop, and a ‘Best of British’ bop.

These events were attended by hundreds of students from across Oxford – cementing our reputation as a truly lively, stimulating and inclusive college.

**SAVE THE DATE**

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<td>Saturday 19 June 2010</td>
<td>GTC Summer Ball Diamonds are Forever</td>
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<td>Saturday 26 June 2010</td>
<td>Summer Garden Party 3pm-5:30pm</td>
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<td>Saturday 25 September 2010</td>
<td>Alumni Reunion at GTC</td>
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<td>Thursday 10 June</td>
<td>Alan Emery Lecture 6pm</td>
<td>From base change to better care in diabetes Speaker: Professor Andrew Hattersley EP Abraham Lecture Theatre at GTC</td>
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<td>Saturday 2 October 2010</td>
<td>Foundation Dinner (by invitation)</td>
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Recently published

Dr Neel Burton, GTC Teaching Associate, has published The Art of Failure – The Anti Self-Help Guide (Acheron Press/Mar 2010) which explores the meaning of success and how it can be achieved.

Keith Frayn, Professor of Human Metabolism, has had a new edition of his textbook, Metabolic Regulation: A Human Perspective (Wiley-Blackwell/Feb 2010) published. The book explains metabolism and metabolic regulation, relating to various topics. This is the third published edition of the book.


Dr Angela Wilkinson of the Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS) has collaborated on The Oxford Scenarios: Beyond the Financial Crisis (InSIS/21st Century School/2010). It explores the world views and pre-existing assumptions that have given rise to the current financial climate.

Paul Blenkiron, an alumnus of the former Green College (1985-88), has published Stories and Analogies in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (Wiley-Blackwell/Apr 2010), which teaches practical cognitive behaviour therapy through stories and metaphors.

GTC medical student Mahiben Maruthappu has written Oxbridge Medicine: The Applicant’s Guide (Leveraged Publishing/June 2010) under the guidance of GTC Fellows Professor Jeffery Aronson and Dr Laurence Leaver, and several members of the Oxford and Cambridge Medical faculties, introducing prospective students from disadvantaged backgrounds to the Oxbridge application process.

Research papers include:

Dr Marc Thompson, GTC Fellow in Employee Relations, has written a paper for the Engineering Employers Federation (EEF) on High Performance Work Practices in UK Manufacturing: The Future Research Agenda, which will form the basis of a collaborative academic-practitioner workshop in May.

Professor Mark McCarthy and a team of international researchers published their findings of a direct link between a baby’s size at birth and developing diabetes later in life in Nature Genetics.

Professor Anthony Hopwood 1944 - 2010

It is with great sadness that the College has learnt of the passing of Professor Anthony Hopwood on 8 May after a long illness.

A former Dean of the Said Business School, he was Professor of Management Studies and a Fellow of Templeton College between 1995 and 1997. He was also a Professorial Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Management between 1995 and 1997. He was also a Professorial Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Management Studies between 1976 and 1978: OCMS became Templeton College in 1986.

He helped to create a world-class business school at Oxford and developed the field of European accounting research. He will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues.
ONCE AGAIN, GTC MEMBERS HAVE BEEN HONOURED BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY FOR THEIR SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS OF STUDY AND EXPERTISE. A SMALL NUMBER OF THOSE AWARDS ARE FEATURED HERE.

GTC research associate Dr Leanne Hodson was been awarded the Association of Clinical Biochemists Professors’ Prize for 2010 in recognition of her work in the field of postprandial stable isotope methodologies. This prestigious award is given to a young researcher under 40 years of age in the field of clinical biochemistry.

Dr Ann McPherson has been awarded The International Chapter Recognition Award by the American Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine. With colleague Dr Aidan McFarlane who was also honoured, Ann has co-authored many books for teenagers and their parents including the best selling Teenage Health Freak series.

GTC Fellow Dr Gerd Islei was part of the Said Executive Education team awarded the Excellence in Practice Award 2010 of the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD). The award was won in the category of Executive Development.

Clinical Medicine student Caroline Rodgers won the prestigious Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health Student Prize for Student of the Year.

Ali Gümüşay (MSc in Management Research 2009-2010) was selected as a member to the think tank 30 Germany of the Club of Rome 2. He was accepted through a St Gallen Symposium student competition. Yasser Bhatti (DPhil Management Studies) was also selected through the Knowledge Pool route. They both attended the St Gallen Symposium as Leaders of Tomorrow in May.

Students greatly benefited from teaching support and the College thanked the Teaching Associates for their dedicated support at a dinner in February.

Rebecca Waller has been awarded a GTC DPhil Scholarship and will join us in October. She is currently working towards an MSc in Evidence-Based Social Intervention at Wolfson College. Her research focuses on identifying the parenting factors that are associated with the development of psychopathic traits in young children with conduct problems.

Clinical Medicine finalists have performed well this year: all passed their BM exams, with five being invited to a prize viva. GTC members constitute less than 20 per cent of the Medical School, putting the achievement of five vivas – accomplished by Jeremy Fabes, Charlotte Bendon, Alex Fois, Genna MacDonald and Nikil Rajani – well above the average.

GTC LECTURES 2010 AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD

Podcasts of the GTC Lectures are now available on the GTC website. The series Uncertainties and Insecurities featured lectures from David Spiegelhalter, Baroness Helena Kennedy and Stephen Coleman and focused in turn on health, politics and the media. www.gtc.ox.ac.uk/academic/lectures-seminars/podcasts-from-green-templeton-college.html

IN TRANSIT

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GTC ALUMNI GROUP NOW ON FACEBOOK!

GTC Alumni can now stay connected with College news and events through Facebook as the College has set up a group on the social networking site for its alumni. Join our Facebook Group at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=117364488288768&v=wall

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