Hitting the target
GTC's scholarship campaign hits its first milestone
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GTC Down Under
Reunion dinner in New Zealand brings alumni together
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Singing the blues
GCR President Kate Roll reviews a year of community and creativity
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Moving on, in the great age of higher education in Europe, the professional focus was fully reversed. Various kinds (‘administrators’) were added to rhetoricians and musicians. Medicine joined in, not least through its sponsorship by theologians, as well as (often forgotten) aristocratic amateurs. In the Middle Ages the relevant cast of sciences that examine public and private situations, but also how to do it, is one of the areas in which the College can genuinely add value to their research and scholarly work, and for which we can offer full scholarships comparable to those offered by other world-class institutions. Without further donations, we will begin to lose scholarships, potentially alienating our funding partners, and risking the good will and reputation we have built through our support for our students.

Professor Sir David Watson comments: “In an increasingly global market we want to attract the best and the brightest to come to GTC and to achieve this we need to be able to offer full scholarships comparable to those offered by other world-class institutions.”

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GTC Fellow installed as University Proctor

Green Templeton Governing Body Fellow Dr Rebecca Surender has been installed as a Junior Proctor of the University by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton at a formal ceremony in the Sheldonian Theatre.

A procession of members of the College – including fellows, staff and students – accompanied Rebecca to the Sheldonian for the ceremony.

In typical ground-breaking style, GTC is the first College to have an all-female Proctorial team, and was the only College on the day to include students in the proceedings.

Rebecca nominated two Pro-Proctors, who were installed at the same time: Professor Ingrid Lunt, GTC Vice-Principal and Ms Lucia Noan of St Hilda’s College, who will join our Common Room for the year.

Proctors are the senior officers of the University responsible for ensuring that it operates according to its statutes. They deal with student discipline, formal complaints about University matters, and oversee conduct of formal University examinations.

The responsibility for electing Proctors circulates annually around the Colleges. The electorate is all College members who are also members of Congregation, and GTC was delighted to set a modern record for the election with a turnout of nearly 60 per cent.

Professor Ingrid Lunt, GTC Vice-Principal and Ms Lucia Noan of St Hilda’s College, who will join our Common Room for the year.

Rebecca has undertaken her role from March 2013 and everyone at GTC wishes her well for her year in office.

Rebecca Surender left with Professor Michael Earl en route to the Sheldonian Theatre.

TURNER PRIZE-WINNING ARTIST SCREENS FILM IN THE RADCLIFFE OBSERVATORY

The historic Radcliffe Observatory at the heart of GTC was the magnificent venue for screenings of Black Drop, a new film by Turner Prize-winning artist Simon Starling.

The film was specially commissioned by Modern Art Oxford, in association with the University of Oxford, and was made by Starling in response to the rare planetary phenomenon of the transit of Venus and its relationship to the beginnings of moving image technology.

Black Drop is a documentary illustrated with still and moving images of geographical locations and historical information, set against the backdrop of a 35mm film-editing suite. The Radcliffe Observatory was built at the suggestion of Dr Thomas Hornsby, the first University Savilian Professor of Astronomy, following his observation of the 1769 transit of Venus.

A transit of Venus took place in June 2012, and was only visible in its entirety from the mid-Pacific. The next transit will take place in 2117, making 2012 the last in our lifetimes.

With the medium of film rapidly disappearing, Starling travelled to Hawaii and Tahiti to film the 2012 transit and the sites of previous observations – Point Venus, Tahiti in 1769 and Honolulu in 1874 – making this potentially the last transit to be recorded using 35mm film technology.

Starling’s process of documenting the transit is woven into the film, it also delves into the advent of astronomical photography, its relationship to the transit and the roles of key figures, including Captain James Cook, highlighting how film emerged from early scientific exploration. Responding to the building’s origins, Starling’s film engages with the uniqueness of the Observatory, one of the most important historic scientific buildings in the UK.

LET THERE BE LIGHT! ADVANCED STUDIES CENTRE TAKES SHAPE

Five months into the construction work on the Walton Building as part of the development of GTC’s Advanced Studies Centre (ASC), and the architects’ plans and artists’ impressions are becoming exciting reality.

New light wells on the south side of the basement E P Abraham Lecture Theatre are now flooding the space with natural light (see the photo right), and the foyer has been reconfigured to create a more spacious and welcoming entrance. The refurbishment of the lecture theatre has been funded by a £150,000 grant from the Wolfson Foundation.

Professor Ingrid Lunt, GTC Vice-Principal and Chair of the ASC Working Group, says: “It’s very exciting to watch the new internal spaces taking shape day by day and we are maintaining a comprehensive photographic record of the creation of the new facilities.”

The first phase of the ASC project will provide new spaces for library and learning resources, academic activities and private study and will be completed in September 2013.

Click on the link right for more information about the ASC project at GTC and to download project updates.

An avid GTC ‘planet hunter’ may have discovered a new planetary body in the Cygnus constellation of stars which is being monitored by NASA’s Kepler spacecraft.

After attending a lecture on Finding Other Earths by Associate Fellow and Director of the Blackett Observatory Charles Barley last year, GTC student Kerry Mauchline (DPhil Social Policy and Intervention) visited the Planet Hunters website www.planethunters.org to begin searching the skies for stars.

Planet Hunters is an online citizen science project looking for extrasolar planets around other stars and is linked to the Kepler mission which is recording the brightness of stars every thirty minutes to search for transiting planets. With this method, planets that pass in front of their host stars block out some of the starlight causing the star to dim slightly for a few hours.

The website taps into the remarkable power of human pattern recognition by showing small pieces of data to users, who then classify potential transits – possible indications of a planet passing in front of a star – and collate that information.

Kerry explains: “The basic idea is that the human eye and brain are better at spotting patterns of this kind than a computer. The findings are then compared to those of the Kepler mission to confirm or refute the potential existence of a planet around that star.”

One of the stars classified by Kerry as having a planetary transit has been confirmed as a potential ‘planetary candidate’. The imaginatively named SPH10088003 may be part of an eclipsing binary (two stars).

Data graphs show light intensity as a series of dots, where the dots dip out of pattern a transit may be occurring.

Finding SPH10088003

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Blades boost for Boat Club

Since the update last Michaelmas term, the Club has been busy rowing hard – and battling the elements!

Torpid 2011 went very well, with GTSC topping the table of college performances. Overall, four crews went up 23 places, five bumps ahead of their nearest rival St Catherine’s College, with 18 places among five crews. Three out of the four crews were awarded blades. A Men’s second eight also took part for the first time.

Then the season for Head races came around with great results.

The women showed great form on the Tideway on Sunday 17 March 2013, finishing 64th overall out of 302 crews, 12 out of 111 crews in the intermediate 3 category. Their overall time was 20 min 13.7 seconds. This was a massive wake, leading to 12 crews not finishing, some of which in fact sank and had to be rescued. Who say rowing is boring!

The final results came from the women’s squad at the Abingdon Head race on Sunday 14 April. Two boats entered, the novice 8+ won pots by coming top in their category by a margin of 20 seconds, beating the times of all but one boat in the category above them. The IM2 4+ was the only boat in its category, but achieved an excellent time for the course, being the first time in three years.

In terms of overall progress, Women’s 1 went up eight places, Men’s 1 up four places totalled Women’s 2 up two places. The Men’s second eight went down three places and the Women’s third eight dropped two places.

Congratulations to all the crews who celebrated with a dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory.

Squash Club celebrates successful season

The Green Templeton Squash Club (GTSC) has wrapped up another season with perhaps its best year yet.

The Club continues to be a dominating force on the court, with Men’s and Women’s teams boasting impressive results. The Men’s 1st team retained their spot in the top Premiership Division of the college league with six wins, one draw and one loss, while the Men’s 2nd team are up for promotion with seven wins and one loss.

The Women’s 1st team not only went undefeated the entire season, but also won the University-wide cuppers tournament for the second time in three years. This is thanks to many committed players, committee members, fellows, coaches, and of course the College’s continued support.

Veteran player Charles Laurie (DPhil Sociology) summarises the development of the Club when he says “The best part is that it just began with a group of friends who were playing socially. And the idea came up to formalise it into a club.

“So we’ve seen it come from something we would do once in a while, perhaps on the weekends, to being a major sporting activity at the College that allows students to get great sporting experience, allows you to meet people from other colleges, and to represent GTSC at University level. And to do a really great job playing squash. The team has done incredibly well by any measure, but particularly in the fact that it’s a college team that’s only a few years old”

Anyone interested in the Club should contact GTSC President Alysia at: alysia.garmulewicz@gtc.ox.ac.uk

GTSC STUDENTS GET BLUES

GTSC students have won Blues after representing the University in Varsity matches in a variety of sports.

Reem Hafez (DPhil Public Health) and Jesse Van Der Grient (DPhil Zoology) played in the successful Oxford Women’s Rugby Varsity match on Saturday 2 March as the Blues emerged victorious with the first double win for the Oxford squad since 2004. This is a second Blue for both players.

Natalie Redgrave (Clinical Medicine) was a member of the victorious Blues Netball team which pulled off a stunning 3-35 demolition of the Cambridge first team at the end of February. The victory was the first for the Dark Blues for five years.

Katherine Mackay (Clinical Medicine) won her third Blue for hockey. Although the team lost the Varsity Match 2-0 this year, it finished with a record high position of second place in the BUCS South Premiership. Katherine has been President of the University Hockey Club this year.

CUPPERS QUARTER-FINAL PLACE FOR GTSC TABLE TENNIS PAIR

Seensam Na (DPhil Anthropology) and Aitzaz Rai (DPhil Clinical Medicine) made their way to the quarter finals of the table tennis Cuppers tournament last term.

The pair defeated St John’s and Brasenose in the qualifying matches to top their group and advance to the last sixteen. However, they were defeated in the quarter final by St Anne’s in the final doubles game with a score of 3 to 2.

Seensam has recently been elected by the Oxford University Table Tennis Club to lead the Men’s Blues’ team as captain for the coming year.
A group of 22 alumni, friends and guests – including a typical GTC mix of management, medicine and media expertise – attended a dinner at the Wellington Club in Wellington, New Zealand in February. Best wishes were received from a further 26 members who were unable to attend.

The dinner was hosted by Honorary Fellow Professor Michael Earl, and Mrs Alison Earl, who were visiting New Zealand, and Emeritus Fellow Dorothy Cooke.

There was a strong Wellington-based group, but alumni travelled from as far away as Auckland and Palmerston North. Executive Education alumni (Oxford Strategic Leadership Programme and Advanced Management Programme) were well represented, coming from both public and private sectors including diplomacy, government, broadcasting, agriculture, health, philanthropy, and international aid. Such wide-ranging interests and experience guaranteed good conversation and stimulated fascinating reminiscences, not to mention resolutions to keep in touch.

Diners were welcomed with a glass of June label sparkling wine, the generous gift of Ian Miller (Executive Education 1989) from his Kaimira Estate Marlborough winery. The menu included prime New Zealand lamb and fish accompanied by Kaimira wines, also selected and supplied by Ian Miller, who was unfortunately unable to attend.

Michael Earl spoke briefly about recent exciting developments at GTC, with a detour into the rational, process, and benefits of the 2008 merger, a detour which was welcomed.

He also spoke warmly about the strong links between New Zealand and the College and the University, mentioning among others his own connections with John Hood, former Vice-Chancellor and now Honorary Fellow of GTC, Julie Manton, a Scot via the University of Auckland and former Oxford Registrar, Chris Liddell, former CFO of Microsoft and of GM, and Nigare Woods, Dean of Oxford’s new Blavatnik School of Government.

Chris Clarke then added an account of his experience as the first GTC Oxford Praxis Visiting Research Scholar in 2009, an experience which perhaps set other attendees thinking. Certainly, an appetite was whetted for further GTC NZ alumni events planned around College visits to the region. The College in turn looks forward to welcoming College visitors to the region. The College in turn looks forward to welcoming NZ alumni whenever they visit the UK.

GTC: IT’S ALL IN THE FAMILY

Green Templeton is becoming a family tradition for the Aggarwal family, as medical student Veena will be joining the College in September 2013. Her father, Arun (Clinical Medicine 1982) was at Green College from 1982-1984.

Arun is now a GP in rural Cambridgeshire, married to a GP. Their eldest daughter Asha is also in Oxford studying Medicine at New College.

Arun featured in GTC news in 2011 when he was one of three GTC members who were winners at the BMJ Awards. Professor Sir Richard Petko was also honoured, as was the late Dr Ann McPherson posthumously. Arun and Rita’s practice, the Rainbow surgery, won the BMJ Primary Care Team of the year award 2011 for its innovative and highly successful alcohol support service.

Arun’s daughter Veena says: “Hopefully Veena will have as happy a time at GTC as I did, and take away many lasting friendships and memories.”

“Given that Green College was founded in 1979, there have only been a handful of years that offspring from our earliest students could be eligible to be admitted. If you know of any other parent-child pairs, please let me know.”

Painting the Eye of the Sun

A GTC alumnus was given the honour of painting a sacred feature of a Native North American Indian totem pole following his close relationship with the Nuxalk people of British Columbia, Canada.

Grant Edwards (DPhil Clinical Medicine 1981) became the first conventional pharmacist on Canada’s vast Central Pacific Coast after graduating from the University of British Columbia in 1977.

He was recruited by Dr Donald Watt, Superintendent of the United Church of Canada’s Board of Medical Home Missions, to Canada’s Board of Medical Home Missions, to drive the Nuxalk people of British Columbia, with the proviso that he ‘make a contribution to the community’. Edwards made a ‘fölk’ agreement with the Native Canadian Nuxalk Nation: he would be the first conventional pharmacist in their ancestral territory and the rest of the Central Coast, on the understanding that he would learn traditional Nuxalk medicine.

He was invited to paint the eye of the Sun on the Ximikikl totem pole carved by the renowned Nuxalk carver Silyas, in memory of and honouring the life achievements of Scott Moody, also Nuxalk, who passed in 2009.

Silyas has adopted Grant Edwards as his brother and into his Saunders family, giving him the Nuxalk honour name Namutsa (Door), because: “Grant has opened many doors for me, my family and our people.”

The totem pole was raised in Nuxalk territory on 4 November 2011 by Silyas, the Nuxalk people and several hundred guests.

Join us for the Alumni Reunion 2013

A rowing experience on the river, a chance to hear GTC Fellows talk about their research, College tours and an evening drinks reception and dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory.

These are some of the activities planned for this year’s reunion event for alumni at Green Templeton on Saturday 21 September, as part of the University’s Alumni Weekend (20-22 September 2013).

Rachel Lindenbaum, Alumni Relations Coordinator, says: “The Reunion is a very happy occasion and it’s always exciting to welcome back former students to share their memories of their time in Oxford and catch up on their news.

“It’s also an opportunity to showcase the exciting things that are taking place at GTC now and in the future.”

At this year’s reunion, Professor Linda Scott will discuss her research into the Double X Economy and women, work and wealth, and Professor Robert Picard of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism will argue that the media are losing importance in social change.

Painting Revealed, an exhibition of work by artists from the Purple Printmakers – including GTC alumna Dr Sherry Rae (DPhil Cell Pathology 1989) – will be on show in the Stables Gallery and some of the artists will be there to discuss their work and demonstrate techniques.

The day will conclude with a drinks reception and dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory.

Dining tickets are £30 (for alumni) and £40 (for guests).

Click on the link below for the programme and the booking form.

We look forward to seeing you on 21 September!
FEEDING A BETTER FUTURE LECTURE SERIES
PODCASTS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

The scandals which erupted within the BBC in November 2012 saw the Corporation draw back from broadcasting an exposé of the paedo-philia of the presenter and celebrity, the late Sir Jimmy Savile, and falsely identify (with the aid of the Web) the former Conservative Party treasurer Lord McAlpine of the same crime.

The two affairs highlighted the toxic issue of child abuse and the difficulty of proving crimes allegedly committed years, even decades, before.

But it also posed questions about the governance and the management culture of the BBC, with Chairman of the BBC Trust (and Chancellor of Oxford University), Lord Patten, complaining publicly about the Corporation having more managers than the Chinese Communist Party.

In interviews with many of the past and present leading players in the BBC's news and current affairs divisions, a new Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RSJU) report, Truth Matters: the BBC and our need for truth today, by RSJU Director of Journalism John Lloyd, illuminates the major areas of contention and debate.

It also looks at the underlying and often-long-running problems in the management structure and points to the main routes of future developments now in discussion within and about the BBC.

BELIEVING IN THE BBC

Professor Sir David Watson with Sir Gordon Conway (right)

The relationship between Hong Kong, China and the West was the focus of a seminar series by Visiting Fellow Dr Ching-tin Hung in February.

Over four wide-ranging sessions at GTC, and the Saïd Business School, Dr Hung (a Research Fellow at Hong Kong Institute of Education) considered what is happening in a Hong Kong transformed from the former British colony’s relations with China and the West, and the difficulties China is encountering in the rule of Hong Kong after 1997, and why, were also part of the discussions.

Born in mainland China, Dr Hung moved to Hong Kong at the age of ten and has been observing and writing about Hong Kong, China and the West for forty years. He is the author of ten books and approximately 2,500 published articles.

During this time he has developed a new perspective framework of East-West ‘comparative humanities’ and is currently working to set up a research writing/programme institute on Sino-West cross-cultural communication and mutual historical education, based on comparative humanities of Hong Kongology and Chineseness.

‘HONGKONGOLOGY AND CHINESENESS’

Khosreshed Dehnugara has joined Green Templeton as the Praxis Visiting Research Associate 2013 and practitioner in residence under the Templeton Education and Charity Trust (TECT)/Oxford Praxis Forum initiative.

Khosreshed has an interest in the ability of organisational leaders to challenge the status quo and work with the inevitable anxiety this creates in large businesses designed mostly for stability rather than significant change.

During his time at GTC, Khosreshed will research and write something that provides encouragement, insight and pragmatism for senior leaders who are interested in challenging the status quo of commercial organisations.

He is a partner at Reunite Ltd, a small research and advisory firm that has been working at the most senior levels of complex global organisations since 2000 and has twelve years’ experience of coaching, team facilitation and culture change, working at the most senior levels in a range of sectors.

He is also the author of a well-received book The-Challenger (pant - Organizations that pulsate, energise and are currently researching, speaking and teaching on this topic all over the world.

Research grants

GTC fellows and students have been successful in attracting research funding for a variety of projects.

Emerging Forms of Food Consumer Behaviour and Food Governance, the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food has awarded one of its three year research grants to the Oxford Food Governance group.

Dr Catherine Dolan (GTC Fellow) and Dr Tanja Schneider (GTC Research Fellow), with colleagues from the Institute for Science, Innovation and Society and the Unit for Biocultural Variation and Obesity, will study how new social media and information technologies enable novel forms of consumer activism and food governance.

PRAXIS VISITING RESEARCH ASSOCIATE 2013 APPOINTED

www.globalcanopy.org has recently secured two major grants from the Norwegian Government.

The first is to continue research among Miskito Indian communities in Guyana on monitoring the health of their forests.

Researchers will use hand-held phone data recorders, with Google ODK software, in return for payments for ecosystem services such as carbon, water and biodiversity.

The second is to help design a USD 1 billion internal Forest Finance Facility capable of co-financing public-private partnerships that can help scale up funding for reducing deforestation and degradation (REDD) and for the greening of corporate supply chains that drive deforestation. GCP’s offices are opposite the Said Business School, and interest is welcome.

Barney Gilbert (Clinical Medicine) has won a GTC, Competitive Conference Grant to present work at the British Geriatrics Society Spring Meeting in Belfast.

He has been looking at strategies to improve call-bell placement on the Geratology wards at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. He has developed a bed-side call bell, which is vital for elderly hospital patients yet they can be difficult to reach or are out of sight.

Gilbert’s quality improvement project showed that an unacceptable proportion of patients are unable to reach their call-bell, but simple strategies – including shortening the length of the cord and the use of a clip to attach the call-bell to the bed – can help improve the placement and therefore accessibility of the call-bell.

He has also received, along with his co-researchers, a grant to develop a prototype bed clip.

Along with 13 partners in the UK and Africa, Emeritus Fellow Professor Ken Fleming has obtained a two-year, USD 11 million grant from the UK Department for International Development and the Tropical Health Education Trust to help improve the quality of diagnostic services in 20 public sector laboratories in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In many parts of the world there is an almost complete lack of laboratory diagnostic services. As 70 per cent of all diagnoses are made in the lab, this means many patients are being wrongly diagnosed and treated. The main reasons for this lack of staff, of proper training and of standards.

The programme aims to improve clinical decision-making and increase patient safety by raising the standards and quality of specific laboratory services and tests that support the diagnosis and management of health conditions related to Millennium Development Goal 4: 5 and 6.

Around 30 UK volunteer pathologists and biomedical scientists will deliver training, mentoring and support. Whilst the UK will see some benefit, the major impact will be on the health of the 110 million people which the laboratories serve.
Safe surgery pilot launched

The World Surgical Association (WSA), co-founded by Mahiben Maruthappu, a final year clinical medical student, has launched a Safe Surgery pilot project in Vellore, India.

Mahiben explains: “The burden of surgically-correctable disease accounts for more disability than HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria combined, yet it receives a fraction of the funding and publicity. This is due to a variety of reasons, one of which is that although there are numerous NGOs already working to improve surgical care in resource-limited settings, communication and collaboration in the field is poor.”

“I co-founded the WSA after realising that working to improve surgical care in resource-limited settings is a key part of the global health problem and that cooperation is essential,” he adds.

The WSA was previously launched in Vellore, India, and has representatives in five countries and a very experienced advisory board, including former Presidents of the European Society of Surgery, the American Society of Medicine and European Society of Surgery.

The Association has established a safe-surgery project in Vellore, India, to address specific surgical needs through education, training and implementation of cost-effective safe-surgery tools such as the WHO Surgical Checklist. It is looking for surgeons, doctors, nurses and medical students who would be interested in helping to coordinate the project or who would like to take part in the WSA’s next visit.

If you are interested in volunteering, find out more about the WSA here, or email info@worldsurgicalassociation.org or mahiben.maruthappu@gtc.ac.uk.

Mahiben is currently a Global Health Leadership Fellow, serving as Advisor to the Special Envoy of the World Health Organisation (WHO). He focuses on the intersection between health and economics, developing policies that maintain healthcare provision during financial crises. He is also a Kennedy Scholar of Harvard University, conducting multinational collaborative research at the Harvard Medical School and the Minerva Foundation, to transfer surplus surgical supplies from the UK and USA to South India, Sri Lanka, Malawi and Uganda.

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Research published in the BMJ has found a small increase in cancer risk following CT scans in children and young people.

The study team - from the University of Melbourne, the International Agency for Research on Cancer in France and Oxford University - included GTC Fellow Professor Sarah Darby, a Cancer Research UK-funded researcher and co-author on the study.

The researchers looked at anonymised medical records of CT exposures for the entire population of young Australians, aged 0-19 years between 1985 and 2005, to cancers diagnosed up to the end of 2007. Of 60,674 cancers diagnosed, there were 3,150 among those who had received one or more CT scans, compared with 2,542 cancers that would have been expected if there was no effect of CT scans on subsequent cancer risk.

This gave 684 extra cancers associated with CT scan exposure for an average follow up period of almost ten years, or an extra case of cancer for every 1,400 CT scans before the age of 20.

This small increase in risk must be weighed against the benefits of CT scans in diagnosing and monitoring many different health conditions. In most cases, the benefits of having a scan will outweigh the risk. But, say the researchers, these findings will remind doctors to order CT scans only when there is a definite medical reason and not in cases where CT scans use the lowest possible X-ray dose.

It is already well-known that large doses of radiation can damage DNA and increase the risk of a later cancer, but there has been uncertainty about whether the small doses used in CT scans would have an effect, and whether any small increase in risk could be reliably measured.
GTC MEMBERS HAVE BEEN HONOURED BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY FOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN THEIR FIELDS: HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS.

Dr Richard McManus, GTC Fellow and Professor of Primary Care in the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, has been recognised by one of the five National Institute for Health Research Professorships given in the second competition for these awards.

He will receive around £1.5 million to evaluate how involving people in monitoring their own blood pressure might lead to better diagnosis and control of the condition in both hypertension and pregnancy.

GTC Fellow Xiaolan Fu has been conferred the title of Professor of Technology and International Development. Professor Fu, who is based in the Department of International Development, is Director of the Technology and Management for Development Centre.

Two GTC students were finalists for the Ngo Human Welfare Prize 2013 which is also sponsored by Professor Steve Ngo and awarded to a contributor to the Human Welfare Journal, whose article makes a significant contribution to the Journal’s aims, is thought provoking and demonstrates freedom of expression.

Khushaal Ved (MSc Criminal Policy) was also commended for his essay ‘Living Deep? Everyday coping practices in a space of exception, an account of research into what he calls in his conclusion ‘the social reality of the implementation of the death penalty’.

Rachel Humphris (DPhil Anthropology) was also commended for her study of how Roma have been affected by European policies, European Union enlargement and Roma migration: the role of changing migration status in UK education policy and practice.

Click link below to read the Human Welfare Journal online.

GTC Junior Research Fellow Dr Kereunjit Clare has been recognised as a breakthrough Asian woman in the UK, with a nomination in this year’s Asian Women of Achievement Awards, which ‘aims to identify the most inspirational Asian women in Britain’.

Kereunjit has been nominated in the Public Service category. Her research focuses on work, employment and labour with a focus on gender and class relations, group dynamics, inequality, power and identity.

Bastian Bettheauser (MSc Comparative Social Policy) was awarded the GTC Ngo Human Welfare Prize 2012 for his submission Protecting atypical workers? A comparative study of the divergent trends of unemployment protection reform in Germany and Austria.

The Prize has been generously sponsored for three years by GTC alumni Professor Steve Ngo.

As another academic year comes to a close, GCR President 2012-2013 Kate Roll (DPhil Politics) looks at student life outside work.

Last Thursday the bar thumped with the sound of the black – the down home, Delta blues, with a bit of Hendrix thrown in.

As the audience sampling their way through a flight of whiskies filled the tables, students took up the mic – one woman sang and our own Yvonna Eton jamed on the harmonica. Oh, oh, we’ve got the GTC. Thursday night blues!

It has been a year of these moments for me. Points of community and creativity – from making a normal night a bit special.

And this has been possible through the work of a remarkably dedicated and cohesive Graduate Common Room (GCR) Committee, which has brought everything from laughter yoga – the report we spent the last twenty minutes looking on our backs in hysteric – to intimate workshops with leaders from the Said Business School’s Executive Education programme. We have enjoyed an unprecedentedly full and exciting term card.

Outside of the realm of events, the GCR Committee has strengthened its partnership with the College’s Senior Members and has played an active role in reviewing welfare provision, securing alternative study spaces during the construction of the highly anticipated Advanced Studies Centre, and expanding our role in development activities.

This work has been rounded out by the day-to-day tasks of student advocacy and care – from helping a new member find a dentist to fielding requests for better bike storage.

Thinking of this year, I am reminded of something that Professor Sir David Watson once said as part of the ‘Professional Jargon’ speaker series.

He discussed the importance of the Hinterland – the life that exists outside your work. And I have come to see that much of what concerns the GCR and even the College, more generally, lies in fostering a caring, vital community?

No-one’s singing the blues at GTC

Kate Roll, GTC President
GTC has welcomed several new staff members in 2013.

In February, Steve Williams joined us as Maintenance Manager from Jesus College where he carried out a similar role.

Alex Clark started work as IT Support Officer at the end of March, joining us from Magdalen College School where he was Senior IT Officer for six years.

Also in March, Joanne Ray came to GTC as part-time Health and Safety Officer. Joanne has been working in the insurance industry in London in facilities management and health and safety for over ten years.

Congratulations to Chris Lyford who was appointed Head Chef following a rigorous selection process. We now have a vacancy for Second Chef!

The Development and Communications Office welcomed two new temporary team members in the early part of the year: Kay Honner as Development Manager, and Hilary Tonks as Development and Communications Assistant. Kay was the first Development Director at the former Green College back in 2001 and has since enjoyed a varied career in fundraising, most recently with the Philanthropy Company.

Hilary’s administration experience comes from working at The Defence Academy at Cranfield University in Shrivenham and Fundraising at Prospect Hospice in Swindon.

We said goodbye to Betty Mitchell, who retired from the Housekeeping team in March after almost 20 years’ service. We wish Betty every happiness in her retirement.

Sheryl Peake, also from the housekeeping team, moved on from GTC after four years in April.

Joan Himpson, formerly of Exeter College, who spent almost six months helping out in the College Office and then the Development and Communications Office, retired for a second time in March and plans to spend lots of time at her house in south-west France.

In March Martin Jeffrey, who covered the IT Support Officer role for four months, left for a new role at Swindon Borough Council.

Finally, we also said goodbye to Vanda Vas of the casual waiting team.

GTC ONLINE STORE NOW OPEN!

GTC merchandise is now available to buy on the Web, following the recent launch of a new online store.

The College has a varied range of gifts featuring the GTC shield, from clothing such as ties, scarves and hooded sweatshirts, to pens, mugs, keyrings and USB sticks.

Click the link below to browse the GTC online shop.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 15 June at 3pm
Summer Garden Party
Enjoy the beautiful College grounds, music, entertainers and afternoon tea. College prizes will also be awarded this afternoon – the Principal’s Prize, Nautilus Awards and Photography Prize.

Saturday 21 September
GTC Alumni Reunion
There will be various events taking place in the course of the day such as rowing taster sessions on the river with the Boat Club and guest speakers including GTC Fellow Professor Linda Scott and Professor Robert Picard, GTC Research Fellow and Director of Research at the Reuters Institute. The day will end with dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory. Email Rachel Lindenbaum alumni@gtc.ox.ac.uk for more information or download a programme here.

Wednesday 13 November at 6pm
Barclay Lecture 2013
Guest speaker: Dame Helen Alexander, Chairman of UBM plc, the Port of London Authority (PLA) and Incisive Media

Visit the GTC online calendar for full details of upcoming events.

CONNECT WITH GTC

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/GTCAlumni

Join the GTC LinkedIn Group

IN TRANSIT

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WELCOME AND FAREWELL

New staff at GTC include: (L to R) Alex Clark, Hilary Tonks, Joanne Ray and Kay Honner