Dear colleagues,

The 2016/17 academic year begins at a time of greater uncertainty for the higher education sector than almost anyone can remember.

While many of these threats are global, their ramifications are also local. While Brexit affects everyone, a report by the LSE which was issued a few weeks before the referendum showed that social sciences in general stood to lose more proportionally from leaving Europe than any other area of research funding and that within the social science community Oxford stood to be the largest loser simply because it had been so outstandingly successful in gaining research funding over the past decade. Oxford has won more European Research Council awards in social sciences during the period 2007–2015 than any other European University – 49 compared to Cambridge’s 30 and the LSE’s 25.

The implications of the Higher Education and Research Bill are potentially also particularly worrying for social sciences which are not even covered in the Bill’s somewhat bizarre description of its own remit as covering ‘research into science, technology, humanities and new ideas’ and the more general proposed remit of UKRI and its Research Committees as supporting research that contributes ‘to economic growth in the United Kingdom and improving quality of life’ (with no mention of ‘public benefit’).

The recommendations of the Stern review into the REF are generally to be welcomed but their implementation still begs many questions which have major implications for departmental recruitment, investment and retention policies over the next five years.

And of course we are all aware of the fallout from changes to academic pensions, the unresolved questions over the status of international students, and the continuing pressure on our capital programme as we invest in having a suitable estate for the next two or three decades.

In the light of all these uncertainties and the anxieties that they provoke, it is a good moment to take stock of exactly where we currently are and how well prepared we are for what the next period might bring.

While as social scientists we are more sceptical than most of the validity of rankings, we also recognise their social value. We should not completely dismiss therefore our recent ranking behind only Stanford in the Times Higher World University Rankings: Education, Law, Politics and International Relations, Development Studies, Sociology, Geography, Economics, Archaeology and Business Studies. The change of database to Scopus used in these rankings has probably benefitted Oxford because it includes many more monographs which is a more popular form of publication in the UK than in the US.

The Social Sciences Division has also had an outstanding summer in terms of the number of postdoctoral awards it has won for the academic year which has just began. These include: 20% of all ESRC Future Research leader awards in social sciences; over 16% of all Leverhulme postdoctoral awards in social sciences; almost 9% of all British Academy postdoctoral fellowships awarded in social sciences and
The Division was successful in its bid for an ESRC doctoral training partnership which it is leading with Open and Brunel Universities. The award is worth at least 185 fully funded studentships over the next six years and many thanks are due to David Mills and his colleagues who were responsible for pulling the bid together.

Financially, the Division had another strong year. Total income for the Division was £185m, representing 10% growth from the previous year. This included research income of £32 million, while new awards won topped £46m. Across the Division, almost £30 million was raised through our development teams, mainly for posts and scholarships. The departments collectively delivered a very stiff budget target set by the University continuing to demonstrate strong financial management across a Division which has grown rapidly in recent years and now has close to 1000 academic staff.

The Blavatnik School of Government’s new building was opened by Prince William and the major refurbishments to the Law Faculty are on track for completion at the end of this calendar year as are those at 1-2 South Parks Road which will house academic teams from Archaeology and ODID. A new Institute of Human Rights will open in Mansfield College in the spring of 2017. Major new educational initiatives included the redesign of area studies programmes which will bring the teaching in social science and humanities together for the first time in a fully integrated manner. Stories from the Division’s research were covered in 3000 items of news coverage with around 20% being in media outlets with readerships of over one million people.

There are major uncertainties confronting us over the next few years but the Division collectively, I believe, is in good shape to deal with them. This is down to the hard work and support of all its members – academics, support staff, students, friends and colleagues both inside and outside the University – and I would like to thank them collectively for everything that they contribute. I would also like to pick out a few individuals for special thanks: to Sarah Whatmore and Margaret Stevens who have stood down after serving as the first Associate Heads respectively for Research and Education and to Mark Pollard and Paul Martin who have replaced them in those roles; to the demitting heads of departments and schools (Marcus Banks; Martin Browning; Ian Goldin; Nandini Gooptu; Ernesto Macaro; Andrew Wilson; Martin Seeleib-Kaiser) and to their newly-installed replacements; and finally, in the Divisional office, to Rachel Meyrick and Stephen Conway who have stood down as respectively Divisional Secretary and Deputy Divisional Secretary and to Mary Ann Robertson (the Division’s first ever Secretary) who has come back to hold the fort while we seek their replacements. The Division is very much in the debt of all of you.

Roger Goodman, Head of Division
October 2016
The Social Sciences Division operates to support the research and education priorities of its departments, and to enable it to be even more successful than the sum of its parts. To support this aim, the Divisional Board has agreed a set of cross-cutting strategic priorities for the Division. These are:

- To support continued innovation across our educational offerings. At graduate level this includes ensuring that students obtain the best grounding in social sciences research and professional training, that new programmes can come forward, and existing programmes can innovate and operate sustainability by securing additional student numbers.

- To implement our Divisional Research Strategy with overarching aims to maintain Oxford’s position as a world leader in social sciences and to extend the influence and impact of Oxford social sciences.

- To ensure financial sustainability across teaching and research in an increasingly constrained funding environment.

- To provide sufficient functionally suitable space, with appropriate academic adjacencies, to support departmental activity and promote interdisciplinary collaboration through implementation of the division’s strategic capital and space vision.

- To deliver our fundraising strategy targeted at departmental priorities.

- To promote equality and diversity across the staff and student body (with initial focus on gender and ethnic equality and diversity in academic and leadership roles).
Our Case for Support

Challenges throughout today’s society mean that the work of social scientists is more urgently needed than ever. Issues such as environmental change, poverty, cybercrime, economic and political turmoil, inequality, the movement of people and social development require a global response founded on research and knowledge.

The Social Sciences Development Team works closely with donors and academics to identify opportunities for collaboration and tailor those opportunities for optimal outcomes.

The Social Sciences Division received donations totalling more than £28.65 million in FY 2015-16, a 51% increase over the previous year. Gifts to the division, which accounted for 25% of all new funds raised by the University, allowed the division to increase its impact across the board by producing world class research, delivering educational excellence, informing policy and changing lives around the globe. A small sampling of the exceptional generosity that has had profound impact includes gifts from Yves and Anne Bonavero, The Pershing Square Foundation and The African Initiative for Governance.

- Yves Bonavero and his wife, Anne donated £7.215 million through their A B Charitable Trust to endow the new Bonavero Institute of Human Rights – a joint project of Mansfield College and the Oxford Law Faculty.

- The Pershing Square Foundation pledged £3.7 million on top of previous gifts to fund scholarships for joint MSc and MBA degrees within the Said Business School. First established in 2014, the Oxford 1+1 MBA programme enables future leaders to pursue one of 28 specialised Master’s degrees from any of thirteen Oxford University departments, followed by the one-year Oxford MBA.

- The African Initiative for Governance embraced the mission shared with the Blavatnik School of Government to build good governance and public leadership by donating £1.9 million to the school. The gift launched a five-year partnership to support five scholarships each year for students from Nigeria, Ghana and other West African nations.

Further information is available at: www.campaign.ox.ac.uk/social-sciences
Research and Education

The 21st century poses enormous challenges for society - issues such as environmental change, poverty, economic turmoil, inequality, marginalisation, aging and social development are at the heart of social sciences. At Oxford, we provide the knowledge base and inspiration for new policies that promote resilience, sustainability and social change, and preserve human diversity and culture. Oxford trained economists, sociologists, lawyers and political scientists hold office in governments, non-governmental organisations and businesses worldwide. Policy-makers frequently engage with Oxford researchers through seminars, commissioned research and advisory groups. The world’s news media regularly turn to Oxford for authoritative comment on issues of the day.

Image: James Jewell/OPHI
Grounded in Oxford’s long tradition of independent scholarship and academic freedom, Oxford social scientists deliver world leading research that continues to challenge current ideas and theories and explore new ways of thinking that benefits society.

2015-16 has seen the division take steps to implement its five-year Research Strategy to maintain Oxford’s position as a world leader in research in the social sciences, by attracting the best researchers and creating a stimulating and supportive research environment in which to work; and increasing the influence of Oxford social sciences research in addressing key societal challenges, strengthening our engagement with external partners and better communicating our research strengths and impacts.

Most significantly in support of our six strategic aims, the division has:

1. Incentivized, identified and invested in three incubator themes, supporting researcher-led activity to create vibrant research networks around multi and interdisciplinary themes and strengthen our research capacity and improve success with large grant applications:
   a) ‘Europe Unbound: Geopolitics, Economics, and Communication’, led by Professor Jan Zielonka (DPIR), with collaborators from: Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford Inter-net Institute, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Department of Economics
   b) ‘Big Data and Human Development’, led by Professor Mark Graham (OII) with collaborators from: Faculty of Law, Said Business School, Oxford Department of International Development, Nuffield Department of Medicine
   c) ‘Interdisciplinary Microbiome Project (IMP): Setting the agenda for social science re-search on the human Microbiome’, led by Dr Jamie Lorimer (SoGE) with collaborators from: School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine.

2. Developed and supported a growing number of large scale collaborative bids, helping to diversify our funding sources across the division, including bids to DFID, EU Emergency Trust Fund, ESRC Centres, GCRF, AHRC-ESRC PaCCS, NERC Large Grant, and Newton Fund Collaborative Research. Ironically as we move towards BREXIT, our main success story has been with the European Research Council, with 11 awards this year among Starter (5), Consolidator (3) and Advanced (2), Proof of Concept (1) Grants. The division has now won more ERC awards in Social Sciences during the period 2007–2015 than any other European University (Top five: Oxford 49; Amsterdam 43; UCL 41; CNRS 35; Cambridge 30. LSE 25). However, as the UK Government looks to optimize our position in relation to Europe, we will need to explore other sources of funding, including the new Global Research Fund, and other charitable Trusts and Foundations overseas.

3. Supported a wide array of high quality early career researchers. This has resulted in an outstanding year of success with internationally competitive early career researcher fellowship awards (16 awards):
   · 7 ESRC Future Research Leaders (20%);
   · 5 Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships (over 16% of awards in social sciences);
   · 4 British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowships (almost 9%); and,
   · 5 European Research Council Starter grants (7% in social sciences and humanities).

Support for these early career fellowships, coupled with a more comprehensive training programme,
will enable our early career researchers to become the next generation of research leaders, and helps them to contribute significantly to creating a vibrant research environment within the Division’s departments.

4. Continued to extend the impact and influence of Oxford’s social sciences research by funding 34 (including 14 dialogue) projects through the Oxford’s ESRC Impact Acceleration Account ( awarding £385k) and our Higher Education and Innovation Fund Fellowships (funding 5 fellowships awarding £120K). This funding has enabled our researchers to continue to develop effective engagement and communication with a wide array of partners, external to the academic community, including international NGOs and charities, like UNICEF, WHO and UNDP, UK Parliament, Welsh Government, Thames Valley Police, NHS, OXFAM, local government and City Councils across the UK, local schools, and businesses such as Ipsos Mori and Decimus Capital Markets.

Oxford’s social science research has been promoted through many routes over the course of the year, via written case studies on the divisional webpages, an ever-growing twitter profile and videos. These show how social sciences research at Oxford is influencing policy makers (in the UK and overseas), business, practitioners and global communities.

Work to raise the public profile of Oxford’s social sciences research has also been recognised with our researchers receiving a number of awards from the VC’s inaugural University Public Engagement with Research Awards – ‘Learning from the Masters: the Great Box Project’, led by Professor Laura Peers (Pitt Rivers Museum and School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography); ‘Refugee Economies: forced Displacement and Development (part of the Humanitarian Innovation Project (HIP)’, led by Professor Alexander Betts (Refugee Studies Centre, Department of International Development); ‘Archeox: East Oxford – One history or many’, led by Professor David Griffiths, Department of Continuing Education; and LiveFriday: Social Animals, led by the Social Sciences Division and the Ashmolean Museum.
Education

Departments in the Social Sciences Division offer a range of diverse, stimulating and high quality undergraduate, postgraduate taught and postgraduate research programmes, all of which are underpinned by the innovative research being undertaken by academics. Degrees range from lab-based science in departments such as Geography and Archaeology, through to the professionally-oriented provision in Business, Public Policy and Education. A number of part-time postgraduate taught and postgraduate research programmes are also offered.

Doctoral Training Centre (DTC)
- 57 ESRC-funded students (including three co-funded by ESRC and EPSRC) are expected to commence their studies in October 2016, bringing the total funded through the DTC to date to 377.
- Over 50 students attended the DTC’s summer 2016 conference, with participants from Oxford, the Open University and beyond.

Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP)
The division has been instrumental in the successful joint bid between Oxford, the Open University and Brunel University London for an ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP), which will provide funding for studentships for six years, commencing in October 2017.

The new DTP is named the Grand Union DTP, reflecting the Grand Union Canal, which built a new communication network that improved access, generated technological innovation, and brought social and economic benefit across the region. The DTP aims to deliver a step change in postgraduate researcher training that enables a new and diverse generation of social scientists to respond to future challenges and opportunities. The DTP will fund studentships across 24 disciplinary and interdisciplinary training pathways, covering programmes offered by all four academic divisions at Oxford, as well as programmes at the Open University and Brunel.

Courses Development and Enhancement
- A range of enhancements and innovations in teaching and assessment have been approved and a number of programme reviews have been undertaken as part of the regular cycle of quality assurance.
- An innovative new option in ‘Entrepreneurship and Innovation’ has been approved for undergraduate students in the Said Business School and the Department of Engineering.
- From 2016, MBA students will have the option to undertake summatively-assessed summer internships.
- As of October 2017, redesigned postgraduate taught programmes will be offered jointly by the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (SIAS) and the Faculty of Oriental Studies in three areas: Japan, China and South Asia. The aim has been to create more integrated high-quality MScs and MPhils, bringing together teaching and expertise from both departments.
- Also from October 2017, SIAS will offer a DPhil programme in Area Studies, enabling graduates with area studies backgrounds or undertaking a project at the intersection of two or more disciplines the chance to join a world-leading interdisciplinary area studies department.
- A part-time version of the MSc Education (Research Design and Methodology) has been approved, to be offered by the Department of Education from October 2017.
- Work is being undertaken in a number of departments to design part-time versions of DPhil programmes, and so far a part-time version of the DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies has been approved for admission from 2017.
Progress has continued in delivering the Division’s capital and space strategy, focussed on providing both functionally-suitable space as well as exploiting opportunities for co-location or physical adjacencies (so-called ‘hubs’) between units and departments within the Division and across other divisions. The strategy will engender a coherent and vibrant academic community, and promote inter and multidisciplinary collaboration, delivery of educational provision, and the sharing of facilities and services.

HRH Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, formally opened the new Blavatnik School of Government building on 11 May. Designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron, and located at the heart of the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, this iconic new building supports the School’s mission of inspiring and supporting better government and public policy around the world. In June the building was announced as a winner of The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) 2016 National Awards, the most rigorous and prestigious awards for new buildings in the UK.

Progress on other projects during 2015-16 includes:

- The architectural practice, John McAslan + Partners was appointed to undertake a feasibility study on Osney Power Station. The study will help determine whether the building can provide the space and facilities needed by Saïd Business School to provide a state of the art centre for its Executive Education activities. A number of community engagement events have been held during the year to share initial plans and to get feedback from Osney residents and other stakeholders.

- Contractors are on site undertaking major improvement works in the St Cross Building for the Law and
English faculties and their respective libraries. The works, which will be completed at the end of 2016, mark the second of three phases to enable the consolidation of the Social Sciences hub at St Cross Road/Manor Road. The final phase will be completed once the English Faculty and Library relocate to a new Humanities building on the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter.

- Planning permission and listed building consent has been received to commence works on the refurbishment of 1-2 South Parks Road which will host academic and research teams from the School of Archaeology and the Oxford Department of International Development. The works are expected to be completed in January 2017, at which point related works will start in the adjacent Dyson Perrins building to enhance the laboratory facilities and to create a dedicated graduate student workspace for the School of Archaeology.

According to the News and Information Office’s media monitoring database, the Social Sciences Division secured 2,967 items of international, national and regional coverage (print, online and broadcast) in the 12 months to 24th August 2016. Of those, at least 525 were in media outlets which reach more than one million people (the database does not have audience figures for all outlets). The Division’s largest audience was via the national UK media, accounting for 49.5% of all coverage. Overseas national media (e.g. Die Welt, Times of India) were responsible for more than a fifth (22%) of all coverage.

Our media-monitoring system also picked up 155 television appearances and 378 radio appearances; however, this figure almost certainly under-reports the true extent of broadcast interviews undertaken by Oxford University’s social scientists.

The two most popular items were:

- Wolves were domesticated twice: (Archaeology)
- Capuchin monkeys in Brazil use stones to crack cashew nuts: (Archaeology)

News can be found online at: [www.socsci.ox.ac.uk](http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk).
Tea ceremony at Live Friday: Social Animals, an event which consisted of live performances and workshops that presented cutting-edge research from across the Division and attracted an audience of over 4500. Image courtesy John Cairns.
Academic Departments in Social Sciences

At Oxford, social scientists are committed to developing a greater understanding of all aspects of society through research and teaching; from the impact of political, legal and economic systems on social and economic welfare to human rights and security. All our schools and departments explore new areas at the cutting-edge of discovery, with a commitment to remaining at the forefront of research and teaching.
Awards and Appointments

We are delighted to announce the following honours, awards and appointments during 2015-16:

2016 New Year Honours
The following members of the division have been recognised in the 2016 New Year Honours list:

• Professor Linda McDowell, Professor of Human Geography and Fellow of St John’s College, has been appointed CBE for services to geography and higher education.

• Ms Fran Bennett, Senior Research and Teaching Fellow at the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, has been appointed OBE for services to social science.

Academy of Social Sciences
The Academy of Social Sciences has conferred the Award of Fellow on the following:

• Professor Jo-Anne Baird, Pearson Professor of Educational Assessment and Director of the Department of Education, University of Oxford

• Professor David M Clark, Professor and Chair of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford

• Professor Mary Daly, Professor of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Oxford

• Professor Michael Freeden Emeritus Professor of Politics University of Oxford

• Professor Louise Richardson Vice-Chancellor and Professor of International Relations University of Oxford

British Academy Fellows
The Academy of Social Sciences has conferred the Award of Fellow on the following:

• Professor Stephen Broadberry Professor of Economic History, University of Oxford

• Professor Judith Freedman Pinsent Masons Professor of Taxation Law and Associate Dean for Development, University of Oxford; Director of Legal Research, Centre for Business Taxation; Fellow, Worcester College, Oxford

• Professor Catherine Morgan Senior Research Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford; Professor of Classics and Archaeology, University of Oxford

• Professor Duncan Snidal Professor of International Relations, University of Oxford; Fellow, Nuffield College, Oxford

• Professor Fiona Williams OBE Emeritus Professor of Social Policy, University of Leeds; Research Associate, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society, University of Oxford; Honorary Professor, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Australia

• Justice Kate O’Regan Former Judge, Constitutional Court, South Africa; Visiting Professor, University of Oxford; Honorary Visiting Professor, University of Cape Town
Home to over 40 academic staff, the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography (SAME) is renowned for its contributions to anthropological theory, its commitment to long-term ethnographic fieldwork, and its association with the Pitt Rivers Museum and the anthropology of visual and material culture. Oxford Anthropology was ranked first in the UK and second globally in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for 2016, based on ‘academic reputation, employer reputation and research impact’.

Research, Impact and Knowledge Exchange
Research funding obtained includes:
· Harvey Whitehouse: €2.5m ERC Advanced Investigator award for ‘Ritual Modes: Divergent Modes of Ritual, Social cohesion, Prosociality, and Conflict’.
· Susana Carvalho: €19,759 from the National Geographic Society Global Exploration Fund for ‘The Unexplored Rift Valley: Human origins research at Gorongosa National Park’.
· Steve Rayner: £190,749, Horizon 2020, for ‘Bridges the Gap for Innovation in Disaster Resilience (BRIGAID)’.
· Stanley Ulijaszek: £50,394 from the John Fell Fund for ‘Evaluating Associations between Social Mobility and Wellbeing through a Novel Socioepidemiological Study’.

The Migration Observatory, based in the Centre for Migration, Policy, and Society (COMPAS), played a key role in informing the debate on the UK’s EU membership, with a series of reports on EU migrants’ use of welfare benefits, drivers of EU migration to the UK, etc.

The School made the media on several occasions this year for its innovative research. Emma Cohen and DPhil student Bahar Tuncgenc showed that synchronised dance-like moves can help groups of children form emotional bonds; this was taken up by the BBC and the Daily Mail. Harvey Whitehouse appeared in The Story of God with Morgan Freeman on the National Geographic Channel. Javier Lezaun and DPhil student Christiaan de Koning submitted written evidence to an inquiry into genetically modified insects launched by the House of Lords’ Science and Technology Committee.

Teaching, Lectures and Events
In the course of the year 27 doctorates were submitted, and 49 MScs and 13 MPhils completed. Around 50% of currently registered DPhil students hold scholarships of various kinds.

Several workshops and conferences took place including ‘Urban Governance and Its Discontents’, part of the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities; it was attended by over 120 academics, professionals, and students. The 2016 Maret Memorial Lecture was given by Professor T.H. Eriksen on ‘The Creole World between Inequality and Difference’. Human Sciences held its third UNIQ Summer School for sixth formers in July 2016 and had two very successful open days on 29 and 30 June 2016.

Awards and Honours News
In July 2016, Laura Peers won a Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Public Engagement with Research for her outstanding Great Box Project, a partnership project with the Haida Gwaii Museum and artists Jaalen Edenshaw and Gwaii Edenshaw. Darryl Stellmach was awarded the 2015 Royal Anthropological Institute Sutasoma Award in March 2016 for his doctoral research on the Médecins San Frontières (MSF) response to the civil conflict in South Sudan.
The School of Archaeology is one of the few departments worldwide where so many diverse aspects of archaeological teaching and research are brought together to address critical questions about our past.

Research

Research in the School extends from questions of human origins through the origins of agriculture, ancient environments, to classical and historical archaeology and are underpinned by the development of new techniques of scientific dating and analysis of archaeological materials.

The range and dynamism of the School’s research programme is made possible by its considerable success in obtaining funding from a variety of bodies including the British Academy, Leverhulme Trust, ERC, AHRC, Wellcome Trust, John Templeton Foundation. The School is especially proud this year to have had all three of its applicants awarded ERC Starting Grants (all between £800k to £1.5m) – Dr Michael Dee, Dr Silvia Valenzuela Lamas and Dr Katerina Douka. In addition the following researchers received funding:

- Huw Groucutt was awarded £271,940 by the British Academy for ‘The cultural dimension of neanderthal-homo sapiens admixture at the gateway to Eurasia’;
- Mark Pollard was awarded £1,882,348 by the ERC for ‘FLAME – Flow of ancient metals across Eurasia’;
- Peter Mitchell has been awarded over £119,930 by the Leverhulme Trust for ‘SPAN’.

Funding has been extended for a further three years for the Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology (OCMA), a specialist research group devoted to the study of people who live or work on and around water, and EAMENA, a project established to respond to the increasing threats to archaeological sites in the Middle East and North Africa.

The School’s research continues to make its mark externally, gaining public attention. Research which featured in the press includes:
- A study where oxygen isotope values reveal a high degree of diversity amongst the populations from Stonehenge, the Peak District and the Yorkshire Wolds.
- A study in which an international team of scientists, including those based in the School, compared genetic data with existing archaeological evidence and show that domestic dogs may have emerged independently from two separate (possibly now extinct) wolf populations that lived on opposite sides of the Eurasian continent.
- A new molecular fingerprinting technique to identify one Neanderthal bone from around 2,000 tiny bone fragments.
- A project documenting the spread and influence of Celtic art.

News

Fieldwork this year was conducted in the UK as well as numerous countries overseas. Approximately 30 students took part in this year’s training excavation which took place in the allotments overlying the south-west quarter of the Roman settlement at Dorchester on Thames. Students were taught all the essential skills of archaeological fieldwork, including digging techniques, technical drawing and archaeological photography.

The School is continuing its plans to consolidate its space and take up residence in 1-2 South Park Road, it is due to complete this in March 2017.

Events

Notable events:
- The School’s Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art celebrated its 60th Anniversary last year by holding a series of events culminating in a keynote lecture by Professor Colin Renfrew.
- The School, through Professor Greger Larson and his team in the Palaeo-Barn, recently hosted the 7th International Symposium on Biomolecular Archaeology at the Natural History museum. Attended by an international audience of over 280.
The Blavatnik School of Government (BSG) is a global school committed to excellence in leadership and public policy education through teaching, research and engagement.

News
This past academic year has marked the achievement of some major milestones for the School.

The new building was formally opened on 11th May by HRH the Duke of Cambridge. It recently won the Royal Institute of British Architecture South Award 2016 and has been shortlisted for the prestigious Stirling Prize.

Over the last year the School has recruited eight new senior faculty members across the disciplines of law, philosophy, political science, economics, and business. Their presence will be a terrific addition to the School’s dynamic team of academics who are passionate about driving innovative and impactful research.

Transforming the public sector has been a focus for the School this year. Workshops were held on cutting edge research on driving performance in government with groups of top UK Civil Servants in Oxford, in Beijing with senior Chinese officials, and in Kuala Lumpur with Malaysia’s senior civil servants. Delegations from each came together for this year’s Challenges of Government Conference in May which brought together more than 400 delegates from government, academia, the civil service and the private sector to focus on the reinvention of public policy.

Research
The School has secured a total of around £650,000 in grants and awards over the 2015–2016 academic year for a variety of research projects, these include:

- Equitable Access Initiative (EAI) – Health Classification (Professor Mthuli Ncube) which is funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.
- Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions (Dr Thomas Hale) which is funded by the Stanley Foundation.
- Developing a Detailed Reform Design and Implementation Plan for Malaysia’s Health System Reform Effort (Professor Winnie Yip) which is funded by the Government of Malaysia Ministry of Health.

The School recently entered a new partnership with the Cabinet Office to establish a centre of excellence for innovative public-sector commissioning. This will add to an exciting set of research projects emerging in the School: on education, financial regulation, robotics and warfare, political authority, health implementation strategies, housing policy, democracy and the military, public management, and administration.

Teaching and Learning
This year has seen the largest ever cohort of full-time students with 117 MPP and nine DPhil from over 55 different countries.

Meanwhile the School continues to celebrate achievements in its alumni community, including the appointment of the youngest ever female Cabinet Minister in the UAE, Deputy Director of UK Policing and Coordinator for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee.
The Department is home to a diverse and internationally renowned group of academic economists, many of whom have made major recent contributions to modern economics analysis.

Grant funded projects
Oxford economists continue to compete successfully for prestigious research fellowships and grants to support their work. Major new projects in 2015-16 include:

- An ESRC Future Research Leaders grant to Abi Adams for research on “Modelling and Measuring Atypical Employment”. This research will analyse why individuals accept casual work arrangements such as zero hours contracts.

- Yuval Heller received a five-year ERC Starting Grant for his project “Evolutionary Stability, Observability and Efficiency”. The research focuses on people’s behaviour when engaged in short-term interactions which can provide information for potential future partners, as when interacting in one-off transactions on online sites like eBay or Trip Advisor.

- A $300,000 grant from ‘Innovations for Poverty Action’ to Simon Quinn and Muhammed Meki for research on the effectiveness of lease-based micro financing in promoting entrepreneurship in developing economies.

Teaching and Learning
Jesus Fernandez-Villaverde, Professor of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania visited the Department in May 2016 as an Astor Visiting Lecturer. Professor Fernandez-Villaverde taught a three day intensive course on Computational Methods in Economics, attended by faculty and research students from Oxford and from other UK universities. In addition, he delivered a public lecture on “Breaking barriers: the seeds of modern economic growth throughout time, geography and institutions”, with Kevin O’Rourke, Chichele Professor of Economic History, Oxford and David Soskice, Professor of Political Science and Economics at LSE as discussants.

Bassel Tarbush, Economics Fellow at Merton College received an Oxford Teaching Award for excellence as a tutorial teacher. The panel were impressed by his passion and enthusiasm for teaching.

Events
The 1st Oxford – Federal Reserve Bank of New York Monetary Economics Conference brought over 60 leading academics, practitioners, and policymakers to Oxford in September 2015 to discuss the latest research and policy issues. The keynote speeches were given by Wouter den Haan (LSE), Gauti Eggertson (Brown) and Morten Ravn (UCL), with contributions to policy panels from Andy Haldane (Bank of England), Jamie McAndrews (NY Fed), Simon Potter (NY Fed), Frank Smets (ECB), John Vickers (Oxford) and Anders Vredin (Sveriges Riksbank). Looking ahead, the Department is looking forward to hosting a second joint conference with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in September 2016.

The 2016 OEP Hicks Lecture was given by Nick Bloom, William Eberle Professor of Economics at Stanford University on “Management and the Wealth of Nation.”

In July 2016, the Department together with Nuffield College organised an academic conference in honour of Martin Browning, Professor of Economics and fellow of Nuffield College since 2006. The conference focused on the themes of applied microeconomics.

Awards
- Stephen Broadberry, Professor of Economic History and Fellow of Nuffield College, was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy
- Professor Brian A’Hearn was awarded British Academy’s Serena Medal for contribution to the study of Italian Economics History.
- Professor Mark Armstrong has been elected to the Council of the Econometric Society to serve until 2019.
- Professor Peter Neary was appointed President-Elect of the Royal Economic Society. Peter will serve as President for 2017-18.
The Department of Education has a world class reputation for research, for teacher education and for its masters and doctoral programmes.

Research
In 2015-16, research in the Department continued to build on its excellent performance in REF 2014, when it was ranked 1st in its subject. In 2015, the Department doubled the number of research projects it held in the previous year, with a high success rate (51% funded of all open competition bids submitted), a diversified portfolio of funders, and a combined value of research grants of over £10.75m. Key research sponsors for new projects starting in 2015 included the Education Endowment Foundation (£1.64m), the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (£440k), the Department for Education (£330k), the ESRC, and, over the past academic year, the European Commission. The Department was also successful in securing internal funding, for example from the John Fell Fund and the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account.

In 2015, 11 academic journals were edited by departmental staff, with numerous others serving on editorial boards and on peer review panels for major social science funders. Departmental research attracted book prizes (King Emeritus Professor John Furlong and Dr Liam Gearon), recognition for landmark, outstanding or cutting-edge papers (Professors Steve Strand, Pam Sammons and Alis Oancea), and visiting research professorships in countries across the world.

Departmental research continued to reach and influence policy and practice in education and related sectors. Examples of impactful work include:
- The work of the REES centre with practitioners and policy-makers on fostered children and young people;
- Professors Steve Strand and Victoria Murphy’s work on English as an additional language, which was quoted extensively in a House of Commons debate and covered widely in the national media; Professor Ewart Keep’s advice to the Welsh Government on its national skills policy;
- Professor Jo-Anne Baird’s appointment in 2016 as Standing Specialist Adviser on Education to the House of Commons Select Committee on Education;
- Dr Niall Winters’ work on mobile-based training interventions for healthcare workers in the Global South;
- Dr Therese N. Hopfenbeck’s work with education practitioners on using data from large-scale literacy assessments to improve teaching practice.

Departmental structures aiming to support and facilitate research impact include the Oxford Education Deanery, a partnership with local schools set up to provide an interface between research at Oxford University, and teaching practice and learning outcomes across the city and county.

Teaching and Learning
The vigorous research environment also informs teaching and learning provision in the Department, across its highly competitive DPhil programme, five Masters programmes, all with a strong research component, and the Postgraduate Certificate in Education. Student satisfaction ratings, particularly on learning experience, are consistently above the university average, while the 2012-14 leavers survey ranked the department in the top three in the division for alumni participation in employment and further study. Departmental staff have been recognized for excellent and innovative teaching and learning design in the University Teaching Awards (e.g. James-Relly, Walters, the Bodleian Education Library team).

Over the next five years, the department aims to continue to be recognised as the UK’s leading education department for both research and teaching.
The School is a dynamic interdisciplinary academic department, internationally recognised for the quality of its teaching, research and wider engagement across the breadth of human and physical geography and environmental studies.

Teaching and Learning
The School repeatedly appears among the leading departments in league tables and was ranked 2nd in the Complete University Guide’s Top 10 UK Universities for Geography and Environmental Science 2017 and ranked 1st in the 2016 QS World University Rankings by Subject - for the sixth year.

Research Awards
The School continued to be highly successful in obtaining external research funding during the year with 50 awards made. These include:

• £2.8m to Professor Jim Hall from the EPSRC for MiSTRAL (Massively Multi-scale Infrastructure Systems Analytics) phase 2 of the Infrastructure Transitions Research Consortium (ITRC);
• £1.3m ERC Consolidator Grant to Professor Dariusz Wójcik for ‘Cities in Global Financial Networks: Financial and Business Services and Development in the 21st Century’;
• £1m to Dr Philipp Grünewald from the EPSRC for ‘Measuring and evaluating time and energy use relationships’ (METER);
• £789,000 from NERC to Professor Yadwinder Malhi to examine the multi-year impacts of the 2015/2016 El Niño on the carbon cycle of tropical forests;
• £634,000 to Professor Richard Washington from NERC for ‘Uncertainty reduction in models for understanding development applications’ (UMFULA);
• £500,000 to Professor Cameron Hepburn from P4NE for ‘A new approach to modelling energy transitions’.

In addition, the School is taking a leading role in research programmes hosted by the Oxford Martin School, including: £890k to Dr Nick Eyre for a programme on Integrating Renewable Energy: £550,000 to Dr Richard Bailey as part of the ‘Managing the High Seas’; and £808,000 to Professor Myles Allen from the Nature Conservancy for ‘Extreme Weather Events: Complex ecosystem responses and resilient land use planning in a changing climate’.

Research impact, widening participation and outreach
Research within the School continues to make its mark externally, gaining academic recognition, provoking public attention and generating tangible impacts. For example, special features were published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and Ecography with 24 papers examining how mega-fauna – large animals – affect ecosystem and Earth System function. The special issues were based on a conference the School held in March 2014.

As part of its 25th anniversary celebrations, the Environmental Change Institute (ECI) ran a two-day conference titled “1.5 degrees: Meeting the challenges of the Paris Agreement” and has supported the creation of an innovative ‘Leadership in Global Change’ Summer School for 16-18 year olds, offering scholarships to students at local state schools with significant financial need. This is in addition to the ECI’s existing ‘Training Better Leaders’ workshop that brings together 60 bright students from across the University each year. The Smith School also ran a successful summer school on Enterprise and the Environment in July 2016. In addition, the School launched a new initiative, “SSEE View”, which aims to engage institutional investors with social sciences research that is taking place across the University of Oxford. Dr Fiona McConnell led workshops as part of the ‘Training of Diplomats from Unrepresented Nations: Capacity building for effective UN lobbying’ involving participants from over 13 different unrepresented nations. Dr Pam Berry contributed to the Committee on Climate Change’s new report, UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017, which outlines how the impacts of climate change are already felt in the UK.
The School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (SIAS) is devoted to research and graduate teaching in academic disciplines which attempt to understand the complexity and the interrelatedness of society through anthropology, economics, politics, history, sociology and culture.

Research
Amongst the research successes of 2015-16, SIAS congratulated Dr Miles Larmer on his four year ERC award, “Comparing the Copperbelt: Political Culture and Knowledge Production in Central Africa”; Dr Francesca Lessa’s Marie Curie Global Fellowship “Operation Condor: Accountability for Transnational Crimes in Uruguay”; Professor Leigh Payne’s two Newton awards, and Dr Jennifer Holdaway’s Rockefeller Brother Fund “Proposal for Forum on Health Environment and Development (FORHEAD).”

Dr Miriam Driessen joined the Contemporary China Studies Programme as a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow. Dr Driessen’s current research explores the growing importance of the Chinese hunfang (marital home), set off against the near universality of marriage in China and the imbalance in the country’s sex ratio as a result of the one-child policy and the persistent preference for sons.

Teaching and Learning
There were notable developments in teaching and learning during 2015/16. After significant consultation, a number of courses previously offered by SIAS or the Faculty of Oriental Institute (Humanities Division) will now be offered jointly by the two departments. These courses are the MSc and MPhil with specialisations in Contemporary China, Contemporary India, and Japanese Studies.

SIAS also introduced a new MSc African Studies optional course in Swahili Language and Culture, the first African language course on offer at Oxford.

Knowledge Exchange
SIAS welcomed Professor Irma Karaulashvili and Dr Nutsa Batiashvili as part of the newly established Georgian Studies Programme. In addition to a seminar series, the programme provides an opportunity for two Georgian Scholars to come to Oxford for up to a year as visiting academics.

Professor Nic Cheeseman gave briefings on elections to the Cabinet Office, FCO and DFID of the UK, the State Department and National Intelligence Council of the US government, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, the Lagos State Government (in Nigeria), UNDP, the World Bank, high-profile practitioners and NGOs.

Professor Jonny Steinberg gave briefings to the incoming head of the Africa desk of the FCO, to the British High Commissioner in South Africa on politics in southern Africa and to the FCO team looking at migration.

Dr Paul Irwin Crookes participated as a member of an invited delegation to Taipei consisting of university academics and policy specialists to discuss the very latest thinking on cross-Taiwan Strait relations and security in East Asia.

Looking ahead
Approval has been given for the creation of a DPhil in Area Studies with the first cohort planned for Michaelmas term 2017. In addition, the department is planning for the introduction of two new masters courses in 2018: the MSc in Modern Middle East Studies and the MPhil in Modern Middle East Studies.
Oxford Department of International Development (ODID) is a world-leading centre for postgraduate teaching and multidisciplinary research on economic, social and political change in the developing world and the emerging economies.

Research
ODID continues to be successful in attracting external funding. Departmental research income totalled £4.3 million during 2015/16; new awards included £399,344 to Sabina Alkire from the ESRC-DFID for continued work at the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), £320,000 from the Swiss foreign ministry for work on Syria and £228,310 from the Danish foreign ministry for work on refugee economies to Alexander Betts at the Refugee Studies Centre (RSC) and just over £200,000 for Oliver Bakewell from the European Commission for a project on Migrants in Countries in Crisis.

In other research developments:
- To facilitate open access to their data for research, Young Lives (an international study of childhood poverty following the lives of 12,000 children in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam over 15 years) released ‘constructed files’ featuring about 200 variables selected from four rounds of data collected in household and child surveys between 2002 and 2013 in Peru; Vietnam; Andhra Pradesh, India; and Ethiopia.
- The Technology and Management Centre for Development (TMCD) held a conference to highlight the findings of its Diffusion of Innovation in Low-Income Countries project, exploring innovation in low-income countries.
- OPHI launched its Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for 2016, which uses different factors to determine poverty beyond income-based lists, this year focussed in particular on Africa.

Faculty published a number of new books, including: Huaorani Transformations in Twenty-First-Century Ecuador (Laura Rival); Secret Diplomacy - Concepts, Contexts and Cases (Corneliu Bjola, co-editor); The Human Rights of Migrants and Refugees in European Law (Cathryn Costello); Beyond Networks – Feedback in International Migration (Oliver Bakewell, co-editor).

Looking ahead, the Department will host the annual Development Studies Association Conference this autumn, bringing together over 600 development academics and professionals to explore the theme of Politics in Development.

Teaching and learning
ODID appointed three new academics in 2015/16: Christopher Woodruff as Professor of Development Economics, Ruben Andersson as Associate Professor of Migration and Development and Pramila Krishnan as Associate Professor of Economics for Development.

Innovation, knowledge exchange and entrepreneurship
ODIDs work continues to have a major impact on policy and practice.
- The Refugee Studies Centre Director Alexander Betts was sought out across the media for commentary on the ongoing refugee crisis; his TED talk on the subject has been viewed more than half a million times and he was named as a 2016 Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.
- Professor Xiaolan Fu, Director of TMCD, was invited to become one of ten high-level advisors to the UN’s new Technology Facilitation Mechanism and appointed to the Governing Council of the planned UN Technology Bank. Both seek to facilitate technology access, acquisition and utilisation by less developed countries.
- Young Lives drew on their data to produce a new teaching resource with Oxfam, More or Less Equal, aimed at secondary school children in the UK.
The Oxford Internet Institute (OII) is a multidisciplinary research and teaching department of the University of Oxford, dedicated to the social science of the Internet.

Research
Areas of research where OII now have critical mass include information governance and security, data ethics, the virtual economy, digital government and politics, learning technologies, digital knowledge and culture, information geography, and the growing field of social data science.

New grant-funded projects in 2015–6 include:
- A five-year ERC-funded project on computational propaganda, investigating the role of automated “political bots” in manipulating public opinion on social media.
- A Health Foundation funded a project investigating the probability of automation of tasks within the health care sector.
- A Rockefeller Foundation funded project investigating the feasibility of data financing mechanisms for commercial exploitation of data, which redirect a data levy towards broader social objectives.
- With the e-Research Centre, OII is leading Oxford’s participation in a major EPSRC-funded research hub that will drive UK research in the Internet of Things. We are focusing on socio-ethical aspects of IoT research, technologies, and applications.

Teaching
The Institutes MSc and DPhil programmes continue to be heavily oversubscribed, with applicant numbers increasing every year. OII will welcome its first cohort of part-time MSc students in October, many of whom bring considerable practical experience with them to Oxford. MSc student Ndakuna Fonso Amidou was named the UK’s best black student at this year’s Rare Rising Stars ceremony at Westminster, and DPhil student Elizabeth Dubois was awarded the Herbert S. Dordick Dissertation Award at the 2016 ICA conference.

Launched in 2015, OII’s Internet Leadership Academy has been a great success. Supported by Google, the part-time course provides an overview of the policy debates shaping our digital future to around twenty policy leaders from across Europe. Now in its second year, the Institute hopes to create a peer network of policy-makers with an interest in digital issues.

News
The Institute held 50 events in the last year, including a conference on digital transformation of work, summits on the ethics and public policy potential of data science, convened for the Turing Institute, the national centre for data science, and four policy-making roundtables in Whitehall on data science in government. OII’s work continues to achieve significant coverage in the media, including on the new political turbulence driven by social media, the impact of digital technology on young people, and labour precarity and the “gig” economy.

The Institute has more than doubled in size in the last five years and it now occupies three sites on St Giles. OII’s expansion continues, with a number of new faculty appointments this year including Professor Philip Howard, appointed Chair in Internet Studies, and Senior Research Fellow/Associate Professor Gina Neff.
The Faculty of Law is one of the largest law schools in the United Kingdom and has an international reputation for outstanding legal scholarship from a wide range of perspectives: theoretical, doctrinal and empirical. The Faculty offers an excellent undergraduate and postgraduate education, including the only graduate degrees in the world taught through tutorials as well as seminars.

Research and impact
Faculty colleagues have had particular success in securing knowledge exchange fellowships this year. These include:

- Professor Mary Bosworth, for a visiting knowledge exchange fellowship for Dr Hindpal Singh Bhui, from Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons, to work with the Border Criminologies research group;

- Associate Professor Lucinda Ferguson, for an embedded fellowship with Oxfordshire County Council’s inclusion services team, which supports children at risk of exclusion from school;

- Professor Susan Bright, to work with an energy efficiency policy specialist, David Weatherall, on how to overcome legal barriers to making blocks of flats more energy-efficient.

- Associate Professor Rachel Condry was the joint runner up in the Outstanding Impact in Public Policy category at the ESRC Impact Awards for policy developments resulting from her large-scale study of adolescent-to-parent violence.

The launch of the Oxford Business Law Blog (www.law.ox.ac.uk/business-law-blog) in March 2016 has helped to bring Faculty members’ research in this field to a global audience.

Teaching and learning
The first cohort of students – a diverse group of lawyers, accountants and others – has been admitted for the new MSc in Taxation, which begins in October 2016. This is an innovative part-time two-year degree programme taught by Law Faculty colleagues in association with the Centre for Business Taxation at the Saïd Business School.

News
This year has seen considerable progress on Phase 2 of the St Cross Building refurbishment project, which is intended to provide various improvements to the building, including a home for the Centre for Criminology, a more attractive location for the Institute of European and Comparative Law, and better space for social gatherings.

In 2015-2016, the faculty celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Centre for Criminology through a series of events, including public lectures, alumni events and a major conference addressing contemporary dilemmas in criminal justice. We have begun fundraising to support the development of a Global Criminal Justice Research Hub at the Centre, and to secure the next 50 years of world-class teaching and research in Criminology at Oxford.
The Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR) is an internationally renowned centre of excellence for teaching and research.

Research and Impact
The department’s research continues to deepen scholarly understanding of government, politics and international relations. The department has had considerable success over the past year in winning external funding. Of particular note are a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship for Dr Félix Krawatzeck for a project on “The Politics of the Future? Negotiating Tomorrow’s Uncertainties in Diverse Political Conditions”, a British Academy/Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowship for Professor Walter Mattli on the “New Governance of Global Capital Markets: Winners and Losers”, and an ESRC award for Matthew Walton for a project on “Understanding Buddhist Nationalism”. The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism also received a large grant from Google, which has enabled the expansion of the Digital News Report to 20 countries.

The strength of the department’s research can also be seen in the number of high-profile books to have come out of the department over the previous year. These include Citizens’ Wealth: Why (and How) Sovereign Funds Should be Managed by the People for the People by Dr Angela Cummine, Fed Power: How Finance Wins, by Professor Desmond King, Civil Resistance in the Arab Spring: Triumphs and Disasters, co-edited by Emeritus Professor Sir Adam Roberts, Magnificent and Beggar Land: Angola Since the Civil War by Dr Ricardo Soares de Oliveira, God is Watching You: How the Fear of God Makes Us Human by Professor Dominic Johnson and How the French Think: An Affectionate Portrait of an Intellectual People by Dr Sudhir Hazareesingh.

Academics in the department also engaged in the debate on the UK’s EU referendum and its result, these articles appear in the department’s blog, OxPol (blog.politics.ox.ac.uk) which ran a popular ‘Brexit’ series.

Teaching
The department has conducted a review of curriculum diversity over the past year, designed to broaden and expand the geographical, intellectual and cultural scope of the undergraduate and postgraduate curricula.

The department has also endorsed a Charter of Academic Freedom, which will frame policy and practice regarding all aspects of teaching, research and academic administration. This is available online at: www.politics.ox.ac.uk/about/dpir-charter-of-academic-freedom.html.

Events
The department hosted many intellectual events. Particular highlights include The Dasturzada Dr Jal Pavry Memorial Lectures organised by Professor Andy Hurrell, on the subject of “The Return of Geopolitics?”, the annual Fulbright Lecture, given by Professor Michael Ignatieff on “The European Refugee Crisis: What is to be Done?”, and the Oxford Parliament event, a day of discussion for sixth-form students, followed by the first sitting of parliament in Oxford for 350 years as the Science and Technology Select Committee held a special hearing in the Divinity Schools.
Oxford Saïd continues to make progress in its mission to be a “world class business school community, embedded in a world class university, tackling world scale problems.” Below are select highlights as we progress towards this objective.

**Research**
The School’s current research portfolio has many strong elements, being ranked fourth in the 2014 REF in terms of quality relative to other UK business schools.

Oxford Saïd launched the CEO Report at the World Economic Forum in January. The report, the product of a year-long global research partnership between the School and Heidrick & Struggles, revealed what CEOs need in order to lead and navigate a world of unprecedented complexity and unpredictability. The Report was widely cited in the press and is helping to develop a new executive education programme for C-Suite executives.

**Programmes and Executive Education**
In September 2015, Oxford Saïd welcomed its biggest MBA class in the School’s history: 338 students from 54 nationalities. This class was a third larger than any previous year.

The School is extremely grateful to Bill Ackman and the Pershing Square Foundation for their generous gift towards the Pershing Square Graduate Scholarships, which now funds five students through both years of the Oxford 1+1 MBA Programme.

Oxford Saïd’s Executive Education portfolio remains strong. For example, the School is working with Rolls Royce to deliver a custom executive development programme for the company’s top 150 managers.

**News**
This year the School has received positive news across the various business school rankings:

- The Financial Times: the School ranked 10th in the world for Executive Education with Open Programmes being placed first in the UK and 10th globally. The Executive MBA was ranked 9th globally.
- The Economist ranked the Executive MBA as first in the UK and second globally.
- The Guardian ranked Economics and Management, the School’s undergraduate programme, as first in the UK.

In June, the School announced The Oxford Foundry – a dedicated space open to all Oxford students interested in Entrepreneurship. The Foundry will build on the highly successful events and programmes of The Oxford Launchpad but will be housed outside of the School. We are thrilled that Reid Hoffman, co-founder of LinkedIn, has agreed to support the Foundry with a $1m gift and through his time by being Senior Advisor. The Oxford Foundry will formally open during the 2016-17 academic year.
The Department of Social Policy and Intervention is a multidisciplinary centre of excellence for research and teaching in social policy, the development and systematic evaluation of social interventions, and population studies.

Research and Knowledge Exchange
The department continues to be successful in attracting externally funded research grants:

- Dr Franziska Meinck was awarded an ESRC Future Research Leaders Early Career Fellowship (£170,000), to develop her work on global child abuse prevention efforts.

- Dr Paola Mattei was part of an international consortium awarded funding by the EU under Horizon 2020 for Inclusive Education and Social Support to Tackle Inequality in Society.

- Professor Paul Montgomery was awarded £407,000 by the ESRC for the Grade Extension for Complex Social Interventions, to develop his work on improving the reporting of complex interventions. He also, in partnership with the Department of Zoology, received funding for the Oxford Martin Programme on the Illegal Wildlife Trade.

- Professor Brian Nolan, as part of the Oxford Martin School partnership with Citi, has been awarded £1.4m for a five-year Programme on Inequality and Prosperity, to focus and respond to different drivers of economic inequality and the impact on growth and prosperity.

- Professor Lucie Cluver and team continue to develop their work on two major randomised controlled trials and two longitudinal studies in South Africa, supported by a number of funders including the ERC, the Nuffield Foundation, UNICEF and DFID. This team has undertaken significant knowledge exchange activity, supported by ESRC Impact Accelerator Awards, and has been awarded £100k in ERC Proof of Concept Funding to implement their parenting programme across 16 interested low and middle-income countries.

News
The department made two appointments to statutory chairs this year: Professor Jane Barlow joins as Professor of Evidence-Based Intervention and Policy Evaluation in October 2016; and Professor Bernhard Ebbinghaus as Professor of Social Policy in January 2017.

Ms Fran Bennett was recognised in the New Year’s Honours List with an OBE for services to social sciences. She has a particular interest in social security policy, gender issues, and poverty, income distribution and participation.

Professor Mary Daly has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the journal Social Policy and Administration; Dr Rebecca Surender was appointed to the Editorial Boards of Global Social Policy and Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy; Professor Frances Gardner was invited to the Institut de France, Académie des Sciences, for the inauguration of a major initiative by the Academie to develop evidence-based policy in France; and Professor Paul Montgomery was invited to serve on the ESRC Peer Review College for an initial period of four years.
The Department of Sociology is a dynamic centre of excellence for research and teaching, recognized in the core areas of general sociology, social stratification and mobility, demography, family and gender, criminology, social movements, health, political sociology, economic sociology and the sociology of religion.

The department has been consistently ranked by the QS international rankings as the top sociology department in the UK and across Europe. Since 2010 the Department has grown from 10 established academic posts to 18 in 2016. 8 Oxford sociologists have been Fellows of the British Academy and 7 Fellows of the European Academy of Sociology. The Centre for Time Use Research (CTUR) is the only ESRC Centre of Excellence in the Oxford Social Sciences Division. The Department is in two locations, which it plans to unite in 2017.

Research
The departments research portfolio includes:

- Six prestigious ERC grants, total value of €10.1 million. Recent awards include Christiaan Monden’s Consolidator Grant (recently conferred title of Professor of Sociology and Demography): “Family Size Matters” and Francesco Billari’s Advanced Grant “Discontinuities in household and family formation”. Professor Melinda Mills’ ERC-funded “Sociogenome” project produced 17 high-impact publications in 2016 including a new book: “Out of Time”.

- Six ESRC grants, total value of £1.3 million, including recently awarded Future Leaders Grant to Rachel Loopstra for her project “Rising food bank use and insecure food access in the UK after the Economic Crisis”.

- 10 John Fell Fund grants, five awarded in 2015-2016 for the total value of £129,158: Melinda Mills, Richard Breen (large grants) and Turkay Nemes, Valentina Di Stasio, Francesco Billari/Christiaan Monden (small grants). Professor Mills’ John Fell Fund large grant was also matched by the Wellcome Trust.

- Wellcome Trust and ERC awards held by Professor David Stuckler produced with his team around 50 high-impact publications on the subject of Public Health and Social Protection. Stuckler has also delivered keynote lectures across the world and consulted on the political economy of healthcare for WHO and UNICEF.

- Overseas sponsorship: Jonathan Lusthaus’ and Federico Varese’s project “Human Dimensions of Cyber Security” to start in October received support of £97,000 from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

- The Centre for Time Use Research (CTUR) (featured in Nature in October) received a £46,000 uplift on their ESRC grant for a knowledge exchange collaboration with the Office for National Statistics (ONS). An ONS member is seconded to CTUR to help build connections between the two organisations. CTUR and the department hosted Professor Robert Putnam of Harvard for an extended stay in the fall of 2015.

Events
Looking ahead, in September 2016 the Department will host the European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) Conference focusing on Stratification and Population Processes in European Societies.
The Oxford-Man Institute of Quantitative finance aims to do academically outstanding research that addresses the key problems facing the financial industry. We create new tools and methods that can give deeper insight into financial markets – how they behave, how they become stable or unstable, how to extract value from data at scales beyond human and how they could be made to work better.

Research
We are in the midst of an information revolution, where advances in science and technology, as well as the day-to-day operation of successful organisations and businesses, are increasingly reliant on the analyses of data. Driving these advances is a deluge of data, which is outstripping the increase in computational power available to process it. Research in data science is already transforming our ability to work with large amounts of complex financial information. Over the next few years these trends will revolutionise how we think about data, how we process and visualise it, and how we put it to use. The OMI is at the crest of this wave, pushing back the boundaries of what can be achieved with financial data.

In order to support this activity and to ensure long-term sustainability for OMI, a decision was made to embed OMI within an academic department. The move to Engineering Science within the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division (MPLS) was completed at the beginning of August this year and will enable OMI to benefit from access to wider departmental infrastructure and a cohort of established academics within the field of informatics, machine learning and data science.

News
Alongside this move, the Institute appointed its new Director, Professor Stephen Roberts, Head of the Machine Learning Group in Information Engineering. OMI would also like to thank Prof Terry Lyons for his Directorship over the past four years.

OMI is pleased to announce that its core funder, Man AHL, has confirmed its intention to continue funding the Institute past 2018 and, to compliment the collaboration, has established a “Centre for Excellence in Machine Learning” within its co-located laboratory here in OMI. OMI has also been successful in securing additional funding from BNP Paribas, which will fund a Postdoctoral post over the next two years.

Looking ahead
Next academic year will see the newly appointed Man Chair of Quantitative Finance take up their position within Engineering Science and OMI. This, alongside a planned recruitment phase for faculty and postdoctoral positions will enable OMI to build upon its success and drive forward its innovative research programme in data science.
The Oxford Martin School at the University of Oxford is a world-leading centre of pioneering research that addresses global challenges.

In October 2015 the School celebrated its 10th anniversary, publishing ‘Ideas Into Action: 10 Years of Groundbreaking Research’, and welcomed Lord Rees, a member of the School’s Advisory Council since its foundation, to speak to a packed Sheldonian Theatre.

Investment in new research includes the £1 million Oxford Martin Programme on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, led by Professors E.J. Milner-Gulland and Paul Montgomery, which brings together academics from conservation science, social policy and cybersecurity, and the Oxford Martin Programme on Natural Governance, studying the contexts in which humans overcome self interest to act for the common good. The School has launched a major new partnership with The Nature Conservancy on building resilience to climate change, and further generous support from Citi has enabled the establishment of the Oxford Martin Programme on Inequality and Prosperity, led by Professor Brian Nolan.

Funding has also been received to support: the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre, from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Our World In Data project, from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and a range of individual donors, and policy development work by the Oxford Geoengineering Programme, from the V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation and ClimateWorks Foundation.

Research highlights from the past year include work by the Oxford Martin Programme on Emerging Infections on a major international study, published in Nature, which showed the HIV virus replicates in patients even when undetectable; and publications in The Lancet and PNAS by Dr Marco Springmann, of the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food, on food production, diets and climate change. Notable partnerships forged by the School’s member institutes include collaborations between the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre and the Government of Victoria, Australia, on the new Oceania Cyber Security Centre, and the Future of Humanity Institute and Google DeepMind on artificial intelligence safety.

Policy outreach continued with the School’s latest policy paper, Women’s Health: A New Global Agenda, launched at a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health in Westminster; and with the Oxford Martin Net Zero Carbon Investment Initiative, which is working closely with international governance initiatives on corporate carbon and climate risk disclosure, including the Financial Stability Board’s Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. Early 2016 also saw the release of Technology at Work v2.0: The Future Is Not What It Used to Be, produced in partnership with Citi. The School also continues to collaborate with key national and international organisations and institutions, including the World Economic Forum.

The School announced the appointment of Achim Steiner as Director, succeeding Ian Goldin, who will remain a Senior Fellow at the School. Mr Steiner, former United Nations Under Secretary General, joins the School following a decade at the helm of the United Nations Environment Programme, driving progress on climate change, technology innovation and the role of markets and the private sector in sustainable development.
Image credits

Front Cover
(l-r) Students on the steps of the amphitheatre at the Said Business School.
Credit PA Photocall
Live Friday: Social Animals event.
Credit John Cairns;
Undergraduate Law student in the library of St Catherine’s College.
Credit Rob Judges;
Oxford student on bench;
Oxford students.
Courtesy Oxford University Images

Page 6-7
Woman collecting water
Image courtesy James Jewell, OPHI.

Page 10
Excavation.
Image courtesy School of Archaeology, Oxford University.

Page 14-15
Tea ceremony at Live Friday: Social Animals.
Image courtesy John Cairns.