

Imperial College
London



ANNUAL FUNDRAISING
REPORT 2015–16

THE IMPACT OF GIVING

WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

Professor Alice P. Gast, President



“Together we can solve the most complex problems affecting the world and achieve excellence in research and education, for the benefit of society.”

Your wonderful generosity inspires us, enables us to be bold in our choices, opens up new research horizons and allows us to give the very best educational experience to our students.

You are one of nearly 8,000 people who donated to Imperial in 2015–16, part of a community of donors that has more than doubled in the last five years. Your support helped to raise over £20.4 million for research and education. We are sincerely grateful.

As I hope you will see in these pages, a gift to Imperial is an investment in a healthier, more secure and prosperous future. Your support enables our exceptional researchers to find solutions to the most complex problems confronting the world: financial insecurity, climate change, epidemic disease and the challenge of caring for an ageing population. Your generosity also creates new opportunities for talented students to realise their full potential at this wonderful university. You have our gratitude.

This annual fundraising report shows the breadth and impact of philanthropy at Imperial. You can read about students like Kevin Heritier, who are able to fulfil their potential at Imperial thanks to a President’s Scholarship. You will be inspired by Professor Jeremy Nicholson’s pioneering research on autism and gut bacteria, supported by the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation. We also highlight how your giving provides a helping hand to medical students who experience financial hardship in their final years.

At our White City Campus, we have an unprecedented opportunity to share Imperial’s culture of innovation and discovery with children from disadvantaged neighbourhoods through The Invention

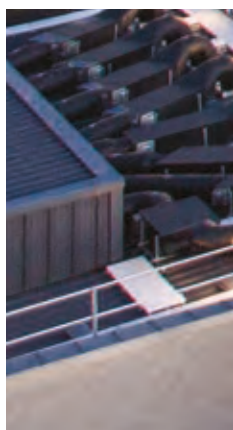
Rooms, a new initiative that will inspire young people about science and innovation. Philanthropy is enabling us to create a ‘makerspace’ where children can learn, create and develop their own prototype products.

I enjoy learning about the diverse connections that our supporters have with this wonderful institution. I was fortunate to meet many alumni and friends at the 2016 Imperial Festival, at the Friends of Imperial summer party and at the many other events at the College and around the UK.

Imperial is a global community, and it was a privilege to travel to meet friends around the world. In Mumbai, it was a particular honour to meet alumnus Dr Hiralal Patel and to thank the Patel family for their generous gift in support of a new wind tunnel that will allow engineers to better understand supersonic flight. We also thank those like Dr Jean Elizabeth Clark, who leave a legacy for future generations.

On behalf of all of us at the College, I would like to offer sincere thanks for your support. Together we can solve the most complex problems affecting the world and achieve excellence in research and education, for the benefit of society.

Alice P. Gast





Imperial's South Kensington Campus, viewed from the Huxley Building.

SNAPSHOTS OF SUPPORT

INSPIRING MOMENTS IN 2015–16

However you got involved this year, we're grateful for your support. Thank you for making 2015–16 an inspiring and impactful year.

Welcome, willkommen, bienvenue!

Parents of new international students were welcomed into the Imperial family at a special reception hosted by President Gast. The reception was the first in an ongoing programme of activities aimed at families of current students.

SEPTEMBER 2015



Afternoon tea for legacy donors

"Legacy gifts large and small have huge impact," was the message at a special afternoon tea for alumni and friends considering leaving a gift in their Will.

MARCH 2016



Celebrating scholarships

Derek Kingsbury (Electrical Engineering 1946, DIC 1947) has supported the Kingsbury Scholarship since 2011. Through annual donations, the endowed fund has now grown to a position where it can today support six full scholarships for the engineers of tomorrow. A further gift made in October 2015 will enable more talented young people like Jessica Charter (pictured) to study engineering at Imperial.



OCTOBER 2015



NOVEMBER 2015

Global perspectives

Overseas research placements broaden horizons and build knowledge. A £250,000 gift from the Liver Research Trust will enable Imperial medical students and researchers to travel internationally for hepatology research projects.



APRIL 2016

Marathon effort

Dr Mike French's (MSc DIC Modern Epidemiology 2006) London Marathon run raised £63,350 for Imperial's Schistosomiasis Control Initiative (SCI) – the most raised by any individual runner in the 2016 event. The money raised will enable thousands of children in Africa to be treated for debilitating parasitic diseases.

Friends indeed

The garden at 170 Queen's Gate was buzzing with life at the Friends of Imperial summer party, hosted this year by President Gast. During the party, Rod Rhys-Jones (Civil Engineering 1964) presented a donation of £4,000 on behalf of the Friends.



JUNE 2016

Outreach uplift

Inspiring children about science is a priority for Imperial. An exceptional gift from David Dangoor (Physics 1971) and The Exilarch's Foundation will enable us to work intensively with talented young people from disadvantaged areas across west London.



Imperial's outreach team brings exciting science activities to over 30,000 children a year.



JUNE 2016



JULY 2016

London calling

June saw the first-ever global telephone fundraising campaign in Asia, Australasia and the Middle East. Over four weeks, our student callers in London reached out to 1,378 alumni living in 48 different countries, raising an incredible £153,980.

Thank you for your support. Together we can make a real difference.

PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARS ENCOURAGING AMBITIONS AT IMPERIAL

Meet Connie and Kevin, two of our brightest students. They are realising their ambitions at Imperial — thanks to your generous support of President's Scholarships.

Connie Anne Dodgshon



A President's Scholarship is enabling Design Engineering undergraduate Connie Anne Dodgshon to pursue her ambitions and shape her university experience.

“While I'm at Imperial I will learn the technical skills to help me make a difference in the world as a design engineer – to structure and communicate the ideas that I have and to make these ideas become a reality.

“I have had some learning difficulties and my scholarship has helped me to access advice on how to tailor my studies to suit my needs, for example using tinted glasses when reading. When I finish my course, my ambition is to work as a design engineer for a top company, learn further skills and eventually start my own business. I want to design great products, services and experiences that enhance people's lives every day.”

Connie Anne Dodgshon working in the Digital Manufacturing Facility within the Dyson School of Design Engineering.

“This scholarship has given me the confidence to believe in my ability and has helped me understand and enjoy my time at university.”

Connie Anne Dodgshon

Kevin Heritier

Kevin Heritier is a PhD scholar in the Space and Atmospheric Physics Group.



A President's Scholarship gave Kevin Heritier the chance to come to the UK and seize a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"I chose to study at Imperial's Space and Atmospheric Physics Group, as it is world-renowned in the field of space physics. I recently had the opportunity to work on the Rosetta mission, the first ever to orbit a comet's nucleus and land a probe on its surface.

"This would not have been possible without my scholarship. The agency that allocates funding to our Group requires all members to have either UK citizenship or have completed undergraduate and master's studies at a UK institution.

"As a French citizen this scholarship was the only way I could fund my work and undertake my PhD at Imperial. I am so grateful for this opportunity, which represents a true milestone in my career."



→ For more on the President's Scholarship Fund, please contact Heather Campbell on **+44 (0)20 7594 9330** or at **giving@imperial.ac.uk**

"I am extremely grateful to those who support PhD scholarships – you are truly making a difference by investing in science and technology and extending the boundaries of our knowledge."

Kevin Heritier

ALUMNI GIVING CELEBRATING YOUR SUPPORT

The inspiring generosity of alumni enables our students to follow in their footsteps — and to realise their full potential at Imperial.

Dr Jean Elizabeth Clark

A life spent caring for sick children and a legacy gift for students in hardship

Jean Elizabeth Clark (Medicine 1955) trained as a doctor at Westminster Hospital Medical School, one of the teaching hospitals that would later merge to form Imperial's Faculty of Medicine. She overcame great adversity to achieve her goal and was committed to helping others do the same.

When Dr Clark passed away in 2014, she left a generous legacy gift to Imperial, which will be used to support students experiencing financial hardship.

Dr Clark knew from a young age that she wanted to be a doctor. But after experiencing long periods of illness in her younger years, she left school without A-levels, and her father's early death left her with no financial support. During the Second World War she trained as a nurse, before falling ill once again. When the War was over, she at last began her medical training, which eventually led to an MBBS from Westminster Hospital Medical School.

Dr Clark spent her lifetime caring for sick and disabled children. She established Birmingham's first child development centre at the Children's Hospital in 1972 and was volunteering in the community until the age of 90. A passionate, generous and determined person, Dr Clark wanted her legacy gift to support students facing financial hardship, to help them access the same opportunities as others. Thanks to her support, more ambitious young students will have the chance to realise their full potential at Imperial.



➔ To learn more about making a legacy gift, please contact Anna Wall on **+44 (0)20 7594 3801** or at **a.wall@imperial.ac.uk**

“I hope that students who benefit from my donations will always consider the needs of our next generations and work towards a sustainable, inclusive society.”

Johnny Kwan

Johnny Kwan speaking at the 2015 Alumni Weekend.



Johnny Kwan

Looking to the future with Johnny Kwan, business leader, social entrepreneur and donor

Johnny Kwan (Chemical Engineering 1978, MSc Management 1979) is passionate about social, corporate and environmental responsibility. He forged a 35-year career in the chemical industry, which included leading China’s biggest chemical production company, BASF China.

Since retiring, he has established a not-for-profit consultancy platform to help address sustainability solutions in small businesses and supports the United Nations Global Compact China Network. As well as volunteering his time to speak at College events, Mr Kwan recently made a generous gift in support of the Central Library and Business School Dean’s Fund.

“I returned to the College when I attended the Imperial Festival and Alumni Weekend in 2015, which was the year I officially retired. At the time I wondered why I hadn’t come back sooner. Despite being far away, I have always felt deeply connected to the College – it was one of the key factors that shaped my life and enabled me to achieve what I have. If I had to start all over again, I’d still choose Imperial.

“I was very attached to the Library during my time at Imperial – I not only spent a lot of time studying there but was privileged to be able to work there as a student helper. I also chose to donate to the Business School Dean’s Fund because I believe that business education helps to transform scientific innovation into sustainable business models, which multiplies the positive impact on society.

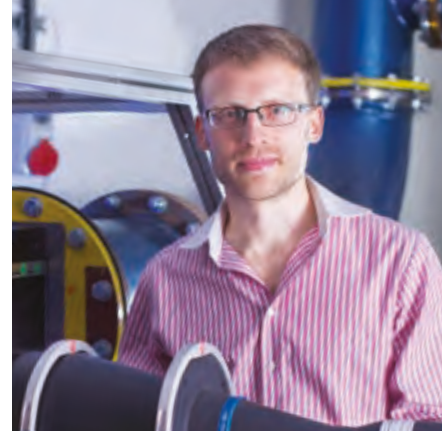
“I hope that students who benefit from my donations will always consider the needs of our next generations and work towards a sustainable, inclusive society.”



59% of those giving in 2015–16 were alumni donors. **Thank you for your support.**

AERONAUTICS GOING SUPERSONIC

A new wind tunnel at Imperial's South Kensington Campus will recreate powerful shock waves created by supersonic flight.

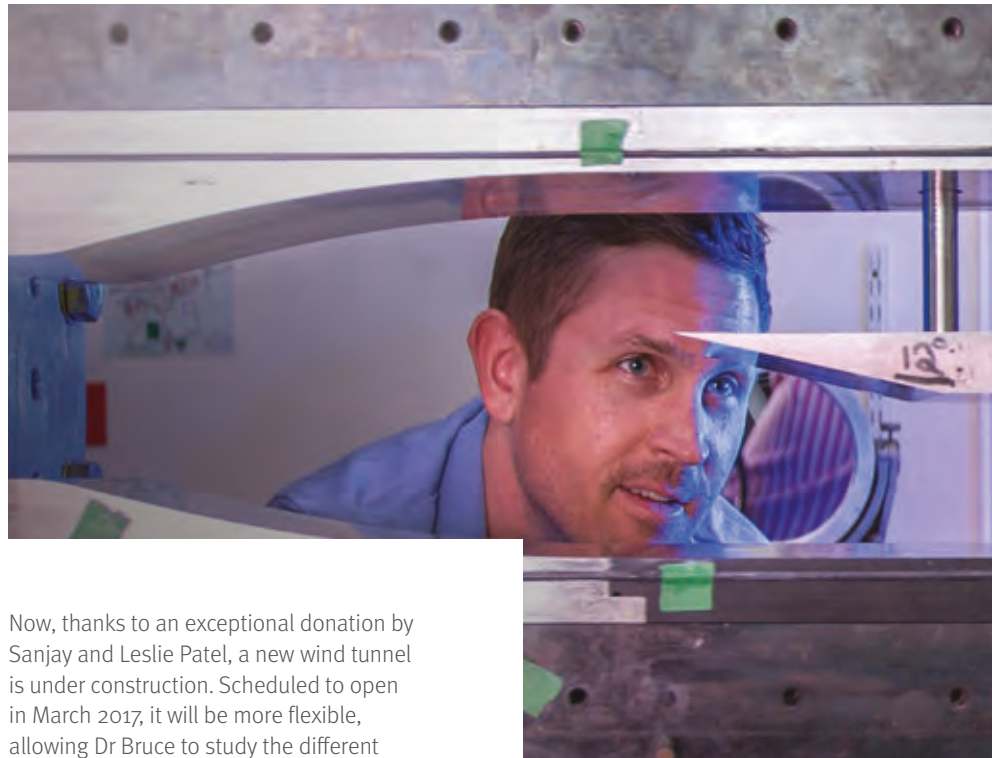


Imperial is constructing a new supersonic wind tunnel thanks to a generous gift from Sanjay and Leslie Patel, honouring alumnus Dr Hiralal Patel.

When Dr Paul Bruce joined Imperial six years ago, he began using an existing wind tunnel to explore the dramatic effects of flying above the speed of sound.

Before his arrival, the facility had fallen out of use for a decade. Dr Bruce explains: "It was built 25 years ago and, while we can use it to study supersonic flight, it's small and inflexible and that's slowing us down."

With a team of researchers, Dr Bruce is studying the effects of shock waves caused by aircraft, missiles or spacecraft when they reach supersonic speeds. His work includes projects with the European Space Agency and Airbus Defence and Space, developing tools to model these powerful phenomena so as to guard against the catastrophic damage they can cause.



Now, thanks to an exceptional donation by Sanjay and Leslie Patel, a new wind tunnel is under construction. Scheduled to open in March 2017, it will be more flexible, allowing Dr Bruce to study the different speeds and pressures encountered by real supersonic craft.

He says: "There are some good theories on shock waves but, in practice, they often don't tell the full story. We need to recreate flight conditions as accurately as possible to understand what's really happening. With this new facility, we'll be able to do just that.

"For example, not only will we be able to simulate conditions here on Earth, but also the conditions faced by vehicles trying to land safely on Mars."

He adds: "A new facility like this is a once-in-a-career opportunity for me, and it will be a lasting legacy for future generations of engineers. We are so grateful for the Patel family's generous support."



President Gast with Dr Patel on her recent visit to India.

DR HIRALAL PATEL

Alumnus Dr Hiralal N Patel (Mechanical Engineering 1941, Aeronautics PhD 1945) studied at Imperial during the 1940s before going on to become a pioneer of the plastics industry in India. The donation from Dr Patel's son Sanjay and daughter-in-law Leslie, celebrates his long-standing connection with the College.

Dr Paul Bruce is a senior lecturer in the Department of Aeronautics, working in the field of experimental high speed aerodynamics.

→ To read more about the Patel family's gift, visit imperial.ac.uk/giving/patel



Above: Imperial's wind tunnel facility enables researchers to study the behaviour of shock waves created by aircraft travelling at supersonic speed.

Left: One of Dr Bruce's PhD students, Ilan Grossman, is studying the behaviour of shock waves in confined spaces, such as those found in engines and their air inlets. He came to Imperial from his home town of San Francisco thanks to a President's Scholarship. He says: "It can be quite tricky to access scholarships if you're not from Europe. The President's Scholarships made it possible for someone like me to come to Imperial to study."

“Not only will we be able to simulate conditions here on Earth, but also the conditions faced by vehicles trying to land safely on Mars.”

Dr Paul Bruce

LIBERIA AFTER EBOLA TACKLING PARASITIC DISEASES

Since Liberia was declared Ebola-free in January 2016, Imperial's Schistosomiasis Control Initiative (SCI) has been working with the country's Ministry of Health to restart its national schistosomiasis treatment programme.



SCI Programme Manager Lazenya Weekes (kneeling, front left) with Catherine Thomas (red t-shirt), the Liberia National Schistosomiasis coordinator, and teachers at a training session in Nimba County.

by taking them at a public meeting that parents agreed for their children to be treated."

Despite the challenges, the SCI has supported the Liberian government to treat more than 334,000 children in areas with high levels of schistosomiasis. "The team is so grateful to the Ministry of Health in Liberia for their dedication and collaboration," says Lazenya. "We are inspired also by the generosity of our donors. Your support enables us to bring treatment to those who need it most."

During the recent outbreak of Ebola in West Africa, all non-emergency health services in Liberia were put on hold, including schistosomiasis treatment.

With the epidemic now over, the SCI is providing technical and financial support to enable the government to relaunch its national treatment programme, and has already supported the treatment of hundreds of thousands of children across Liberia for schistosomiasis and other parasitic diseases.

"Restarting the programme presents considerable challenges," says Lazenya Weekes, SCI Programme Manager for Liberia. "Liberia is one of the world's poorest countries, with a fragile health system that is still recovering from a 14-year civil war. Ebola hit the country hard, with over 4,500 people dying, including many health workers."



Thanks to the generosity of an international community of donors, the SCI has been able to work with the government to train over 5,200 community drug distributors and local teachers, to deliver a week-long mass drug administration campaign.

Working in communities that are rebuilding their lives after losing family members to Ebola requires sensitivity, particularly when public confidence in the health system has been damaged. Rebuilding trust is a priority. "In one town where lots of people had died from Ebola, parents were distrustful of drugs, and refused to have their children treated," says Lazenya. "It was only when a government worker who spoke the local language demonstrated the safety of the drugs



WHAT IS SCHISTOSOMIASIS?

Schistosomiasis is a parasitic tropical disease that affects an estimated 258 million people. It causes chronic ill-health and malnourishment and, left untreated, can cause death. With funding from the UK government and drugs donated by Merck, SCI provides the technical assistance and training required to deliver treatment to over 30 million people every year across Africa and in Yemen.

CORPORATE SCHOLARSHIP WHEN THE STARS ALIGN

In 2015 the Bank of Montreal (BMO) partnered with Imperial to create the BMO Scholarship for Women in Metals and Energy Finance, the first scholarship to be awarded by BMO outside of North America.

The first recipient of the award, Dasha Shalashova, explains how it is helping her take her career to the next level.

“For the past five years I worked in the finance industry, but I’ve always wanted to move into commodities trading. I was looking at courses and found Imperial’s MSc in Metals and Energy Finance, which seemed like a perfect fit.

“The scholarship really allows me to focus on my goal. It reinforced my plan to go back to university, as without it, I may not have been able to. Knowing I have financial security and access to excellent education

“Receiving this scholarship was one of those moments when the stars align and you think ‘this is what I’m meant to do.’”

Dasha Shalashova

and career opportunities, all while living in London – it’s fantastic. I’m so grateful for the opportunity.

“Now, I get to study at one of the best universities in the UK, and I get to stay in London, where my friends and connections are. There has been so much support from BMO too – they have really shown me what I can do with this degree. Receiving this scholarship was one of those moments when the stars align and you think ‘this is what I’m meant to do.’”

The BMO Scholarship for Women in Metals and Energy Finance is supported by the Bank of Montreal’s Equity Through Education Program, which aims to foster greater diversity in the finance industry and expand educational opportunities.

→ Read more about Dasha’s scholarship at imperial.ac.uk/giving/bmo



Dasha Shalashova, BMO Scholar in Metals and Energy Finance, with Bill Smith, Head of EMEA, BMO Financial Group.

STUDENT SUPPORT

A RICH UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

By lifting financial burdens and freeing up time for out-of-classroom learning, your support is helping students make the most of their Imperial experience and develop talents inside and outside the lecture theatre.

Thanks to your generous support for the Dean's Fund, the Faculty of Medicine was able to give more than 20 emergency bursaries to students facing financial difficulty in their final years of undergraduate study.

The fifth and sixth years of a medical degree can prove especially difficult for many students. The commitment required makes it impossible to hold down a part-time job, and with costs of living continually on the rise, students can find themselves struggling to make ends meet on NHS bursaries alone.

Fifth year medical student, Rhys, is a good example. Growing up in a small mining town in Wales, Rhys worked hard at school and dedicated himself to winning a place at medical school. From the age of 16, Rhys had supported himself by working in a local fast food restaurant, but on entering his fifth year of study could no longer maintain the necessary hours. Thanks to the Dean's Fund, the Faculty was able to offer him a bursary and take some pressure off at this crucial point in his studies.

"We are absolutely committed to ensuring students from all backgrounds can have a good educational experience," says Professor Gavin Screation, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. "We are sincerely grateful to all those who contribute to the Dean's Fund – you are helping us to nurture exceptional, driven students like Rhys who may not otherwise have the opportunity to study in this rich academic environment and realise their potential."

"We are sincerely grateful to all those who contribute to the Dean's Fund – you are helping us to nurture exceptional, driven students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to study in London."

Professor Gavin Screation



Over **20** bursaries were awarded to medical students facing financial hardship.



Philanthropic support enables Professor Gavin Screation, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, to award bursaries to students in financial hardship.

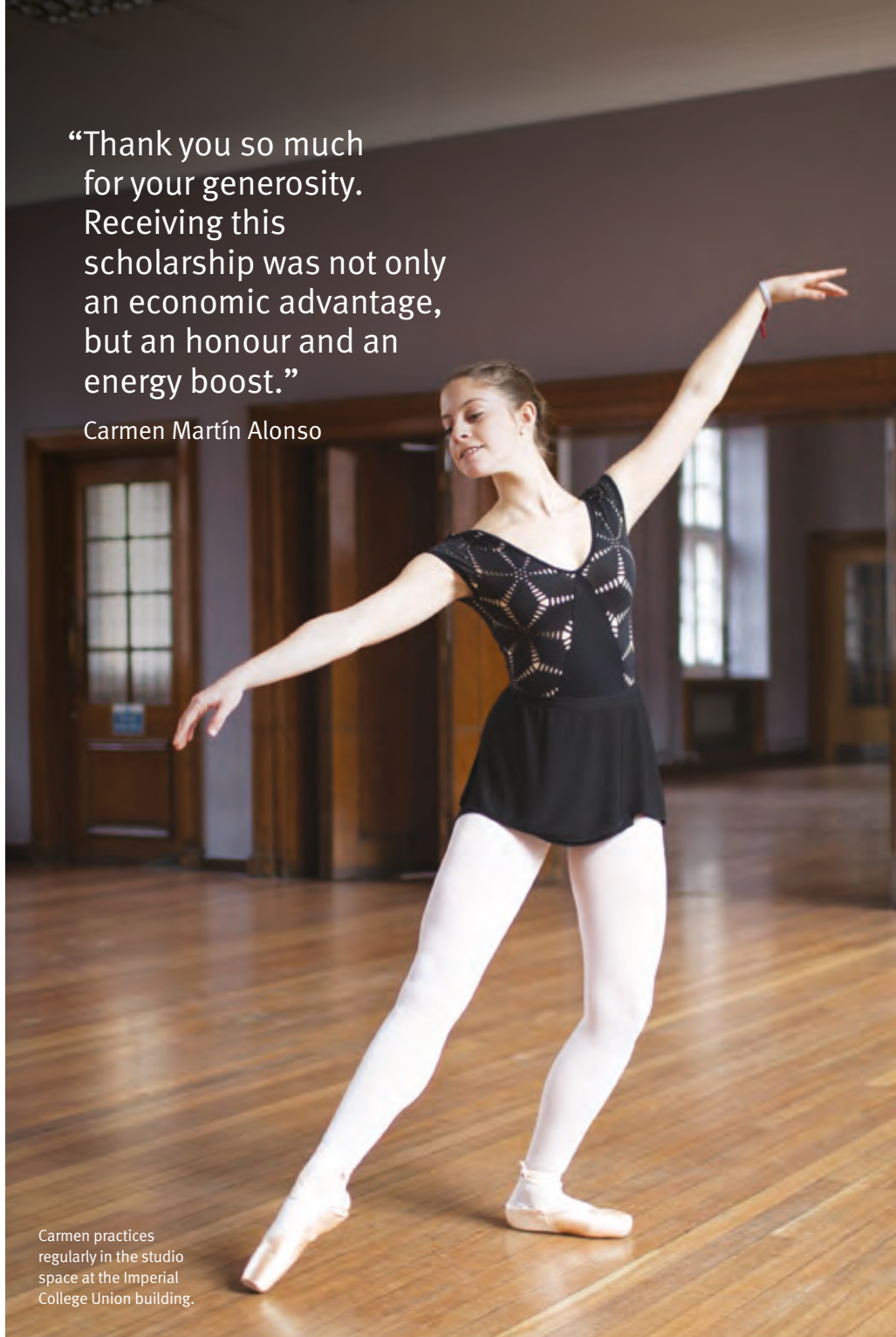


Carmen Martín Alonso

Carmen Martín Alonso’s President’s Scholarship means she can continue her life-long love of ballet while she works towards her Bioengineering degree.

“It’s important to me to become well-rounded. I have always enjoyed dancing and have practised ballet since the age of seven – it was something that always felt natural to me. When moving to London, I wasn’t sure whether I would be able to continue lessons. Thanks to the President’s Scholarship, I have been able to keep dancing. My ballet lessons provide a break from hectic student life, which I feel enhances my academic performance.

“My course is definitely what I’m enjoying the most at Imperial. It’s challenging, well-structured and highly applicable to real-life problems – and the support



Carmen practices regularly in the studio space at the Imperial College Union building.

“Thank you so much for your generosity. Receiving this scholarship was not only an economic advantage, but an honour and an energy boost.”

Carmen Martín Alonso

from the staff is outstanding. This year I was involved in the Sports Innovation Challenge. My group designed and manufactured a new throwing frame for Paralympian Ellie Simpson, who is competing in the Club Throw at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Seeing how your work and effort can really impact someone’s life is a great experience.

“Thank you so much for your generosity. Receiving this scholarship was not only an economic advantage, but an honour and an energy boost.”

Your generosity enables students to realise their potential at Imperial. Thank you for giving in 2015–16.

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

A THRIVING DONOR FAMILY

A wonderful 7,701 people gave in 2015–16, raising over £20.4 million. Your generous support enables students to realise their potential and frees our researchers to be bold in their thinking. Every donation, whatever its size, makes a real contribution to Imperial’s future.

TEAM EFFORT

£20,413,476

Imperial’s alumni, friends and philanthropic supporters gave over £20.4 million in 2015–16. Your generosity enables us to achieve excellence in research and education for the benefit of society.



7,701 donors
gave in 2015–16

Every gift counts – together we can achieve great things.



4,526 alumni
gave back

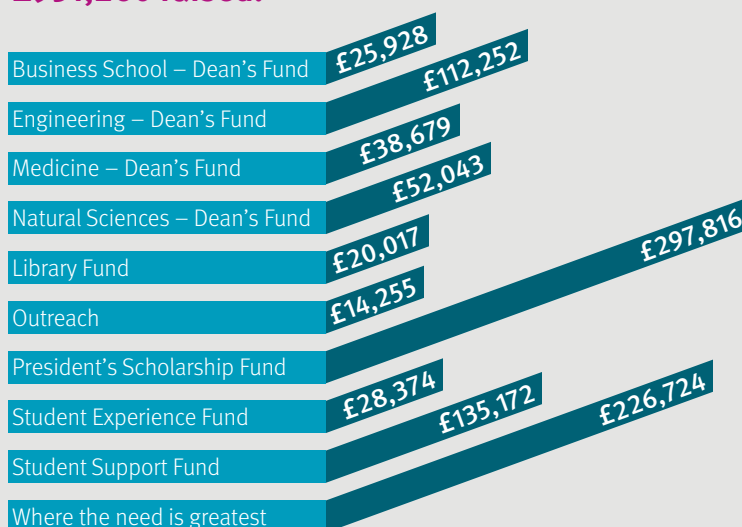
We’re grateful to all the alumni who felt inspired to give back to Imperial. Your generosity has direct impact on those following in your footsteps.

INSPIRED GIVING

What motivated you to give in 2015–16?

Through your support of our ten giving priorities, you touch every aspect of College life. Thank you for supporting the President’s Scholarship Fund so generously – your donations help Imperial to attract the most talented young people.

£951,260 raised:



CALLING ON YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated in response to our annual telephone campaign. This year our student callers reached out to more alumni than ever before, reconnecting with friends and supporters around the world. Your exceptional support resulted in more than £725,000 being pledged.

147 student callers

4,632 conversations

£726,588 pledged



“People may not realise when they give, how much of a difference it makes, but we all feel it ... and it’s genuinely something really special.”

Lothaire Gérard, fourth year undergraduate and telethon caller

A GROWING COMMUNITY



3,176 new donors

A warm welcome to everyone who made their first gift in 2015–16.



69 graduation gifts

This year, for the first time, we asked graduating students to celebrate their graduation by making a donation. Over sixty-nine gifts were made, generating vital funding for scholarships and student support.

Donor numbers double

Over the last five years, the number of people giving to Imperial has more than doubled from 3,721 to 7,701. We're proud that a growing number of friends and supporters are willing to invest in Imperial's mission.

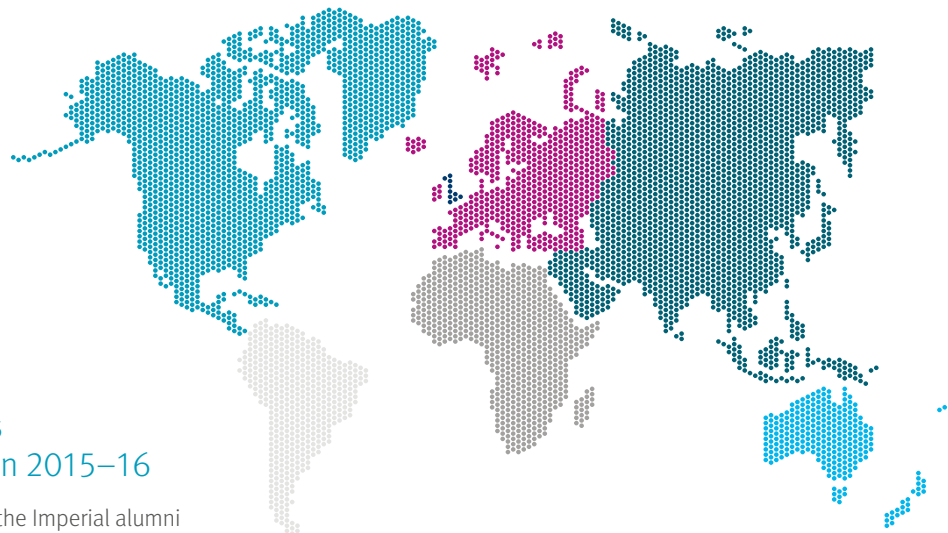


GLOBAL REACH

Imperial's global community of support stretches around the world. Wherever you are, we are grateful for your generosity.

Country donors

- 5,283 United Kingdom
- 1,200 North America
- 595 Europe
- 318 Asia
- 220 Oceania
- 39 Africa
- 26 South America



870 volunteers gave their time in 2015–16

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Imperial alumni association network. We are especially grateful to the **288 people** who gave their time to our global network of alumni groups.

VIRTUOUS CIRCLES

220 members of the Imperial 1851 Circle

We were delighted to welcome 220 donors to the 1851 Circle, which recognises those giving £1,000 to £5,000.

68 members of the Imperial 1907 Circle

The Imperial 1907 Circle recognises leadership donors, those giving over £5,000 a year. During the year 68 people joined the Imperial 1907 Circle.

Thank you for giving to Imperial. Together, you raised an incredible £20.4 million. Your generosity enables our students to thrive and our researchers to tackle society's most pressing challenges.

AUTISM, METABOLISM AND THE GUT MICROBIOME

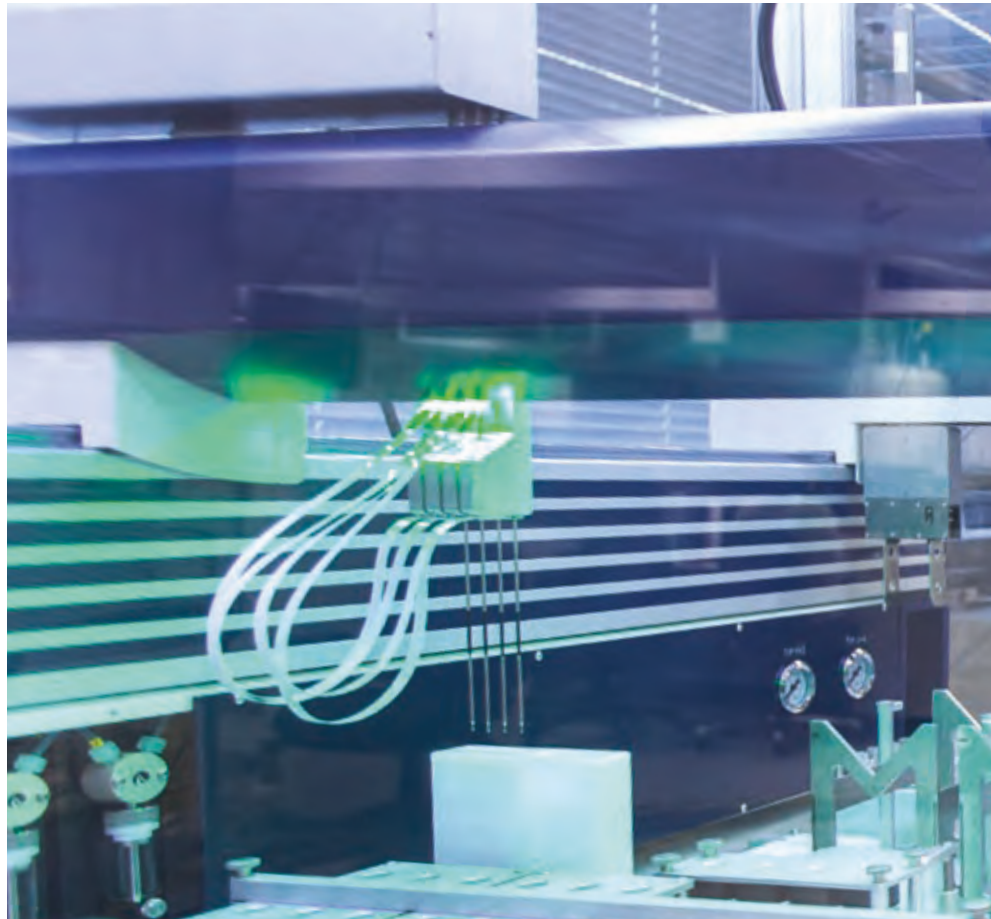
The holistic study of autism could yield new ways to detect and treat the condition.

A grant of more than £1.2 million from the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation will help Imperial researchers take a surprising new look at autism, including investigating the effects of gut bacteria and the body's metabolism.

According to Professor Jeremy Nicholson, autism is set to become one of the most expensive conditions to manage in the world. Historically, it was diagnosed in around one in 80,000 children but now that figure is around one in 60.

"If the trend continues, autism will affect one in four families within 30 years," Professor Nicholson says. "And because it's a lifelong condition, it's costly for health services and the general economy." Therapy and care for people with autism costs around £32 billion in the UK every year and in the US, the figure is \$300 billion.

Now, thanks to a major grant from the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation, a revolution in our understanding of autism, and our ability to diagnose and treat it, could be in sight.



"If we can study the types of bacteria associated with autism, and understand how it is interacting with the metabolism, it raises the possibility that we can detect the condition early, intervene and perhaps even prevent it..."

Professor Jeremy Nicholson

Autism is commonly associated with neural and communication difficulties so Professor Nicholson's approach, which focuses, among other things, on the gut, might seem unconventional. However, he explains that gastrointestinal problems and food-aversions are extremely common in people with autism. In addition, research has shown that people with autism tend to have different strains of bacteria living in their intestines.

"Because autism is known for behavioural issues, a lot of research is examining what's going on in the brain. But what if that is merely a symptom, with the real cause elsewhere in the body?"

Eight years ago, Professor Nicholson and his team also picked up differences between autistic children and their siblings when he compared their metabolites – the unique cocktail of chemicals created in our bodies by our own cells and by our gut bacteria.

Professor Nicholson says: "Then around two years ago, the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation approached me about this work. Their aim is to have a genuine impact and they recognise that the potential for this avenue of research is immense.



Around one in 60 children is diagnosed with autism.



Above: PhD student Adesola Bello is shown here working in Imperial's Clinical Phenotyping Centre, one of the world's leading facilities for research in metabolic phenotyping.

Right: The study on autism and the gut microbiome is led by Professor Jeremy Nicholson, Chair in Biological Chemistry and Head of the Department of Surgery and Cancer.



“If we can study the types of bacteria associated with autism, and understand how it is interacting with the metabolism, it raises the possibility that we can detect the condition early, intervene and perhaps even prevent it for some children.”

Professor Nicholson will use the funds to look in greater detail at the differences in gut bacteria and in metabolites between autistic and non-autistic children. He and his team will examine how this maps to their symptoms and clinical assessments. He will study children in high risk families to see if early markers are present. He will even create an ‘autism atlas’ by including children from all around the world in the research.

The ultimate aim, he says, is to offer early treatment which might be in the form of pre- or pro-biotics to alter the balance of gut bacteria and the metabolism.

Research on autism attracts around four million pounds of funding from the UK government research councils – a modest amount compared to conditions like cancer and diabetes. With the grant from the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation totalling more than £1.2 million, it is set to make a major difference to autism research in the UK.

“Autism is a very complex, multifactorial disease, but a grant of this size offers the opportunity to take a holistic approach, to escape the entrenched dogma of the nature of autism. It’s a new direction, which is risky, but if we’re successful, the rewards could be massive.”

THE INVENTION ROOMS EDUCATE TO REGENERATE

With the opening of The Invention Rooms, a new centre for outreach and innovation in White City, we have a unique opportunity to nurture the talent and creativity of children and young people in one of London's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.



We call it the light-bulb moment. That instant when a child's face lights up with new understanding – when science comes to life and learning becomes fun.

Imperial's outreach programmes are renowned for bringing these light-bulb moments to thousands of young people every year, through hands-on science activities, summer schools and in-school activities.

The focus has, until now, been on supporting children who already have an interest in science. But we also want to find new ways to connect with young people who may not have thought about studying science before or who feel it is not for them.

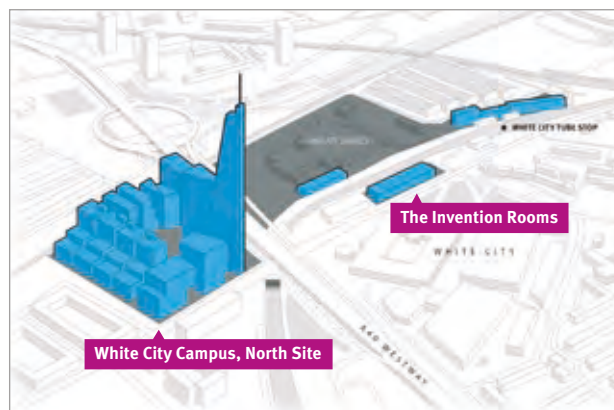
At The Invention Rooms, a new initiative at Imperial's White City Campus, scheduled to open in autumn 2017, we have an opportunity to achieve this aim.

"The Invention Rooms will be a place where people can engage with science and technology in new and exciting ways," explains Professor Maggie Dallman, Associate Provost (Academic Partnerships). "At its heart we are creating a Reach Out Makerspace, a specially designed workshop for children and young people to gain hands-on experience of prototyping."

The Reach Out Makerspace will host a range of activities that will challenge young people to design, build and test prototype innovations, and turn their creative concepts into reality. By taking part, they will develop skills, confidence and insight into how science and technology are used for innovation and entrepreneurship.

At the Reach Out Makerspace, children will get expert guidance and support from students and staff based in the Advanced Hackspace, a community network for Imperial's innovators and inventors, which is located in the same building.

White City is experiencing rapid regeneration – but the area continues to have significant pockets of poverty, with some neighbourhoods ranked among the 10% most deprived in the UK. "By sharing our expertise in research, education and innovation, Imperial has an opportunity to bring something entirely new to a diverse and enterprising community, of which we are now an integral part," says Professor Dallman.



Above: The Invention Rooms will be situated a short distance from Imperial's White City Campus, enabling close ties with a community of world-leading scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs and innovators.

Right: Imperial's programme of outreach events enables children to get hands-on experience of science and technology.

Thank you for supporting outreach at Imperial. Your generosity helps us to arouse curiosity, awaken discovery and broaden understanding.

“We are creating a Reach Out Makerspace, a specially designed workshop for children and young people to gain hands-on experience of prototyping.”



Professor Maggie Dallman



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Sarah Porter Waterbury



On behalf of the whole Imperial community, I would like to thank you for making a gift to the College this year. Your generosity, support and partnership are inspiring.

Thanks to the loyal support of donors, we are able to provide our staff and students with more opportunities to be bold in their careers and in their research, and develop fresh approaches to global issues.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to thank you in person at one of the many Imperial events scheduled for the year ahead.

With sincere gratitude,

Sarah Porter Waterbury
Vice-President, Advancement

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Osanna Chu, President’s Scholar, Life Sciences



Angela Bowen, Director of Development, Faculty of Medicine, at this year's Friends of Imperial summer party.

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Leor Roseman is an Imperial College PhD Scholar studying visual hallucinations produced by psychedelic drugs. He is shown here with the MRI scanner at Imperial's Hammersmith Campus.





Nick Gubbins on a visit to Imperial's South Kensington Campus in the summer of 2016.

“I give back to Imperial because, as a recent graduate, I only now realise just how much I benefited from the opportunities offered on campus, both in and outside the classroom. I want all future students to be afforded the same inspiring experiences, and for the university to continue to flourish as one of the premier institutions in the world.”

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Ahraz Qayyum-Sheikh on a visit to Imperial College Business School in 2016.



“I find myself greatly indebted to the Business School for providing me with the knowledge and support required for my career. I hope that my gift will make a contribution to student life, and to all the good research coming out of Imperial.”

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LEGACIES

LEGACY GIFTS

Imperial College London is honoured to receive legacy gifts from the following during 2015–16.

The estate of Dr David S.P. Bunbury (Physics 1948, PhD 1952)
 The estate of Dr Jean E. Clark (Westminster Hospital Medical School 1955)
 The estate of Dr Murray F. Clarke (Chemistry 1943, PhD 1948)
 The estate of Dr Warwick J. Comley (Physics 1959, PhD 1962)
 The estate of Professor Michael C. De Malherbe (PhD Mechanical Engineering and Motive Power 1945)
 The estate of Mr Richard D. Elliott (Civil Engineering 1944)
 The estate of Dr Myrtle J. Fahmy
 The estate of Dr Bruce Gilchrist (Mathematics and Mechanics 1950, PhD Meteorology 1952)
 The estate of Mr Maurice Hancock (Physics 1932, 1933)
 The estate of Mr Rogers E. Knight (Electrical Engineering 1937, Mechanical Engineering and Motive Power 1938)
 The estate of Dr Jean A. Thomas (St Mary's Hospital Medical School 1970)
 Plus one anonymous bequest

LEGACY PLEDGERS

We are grateful to all those who have pledged to remember the College in their Will, during 2015–16.

Mr John M. Alexander (Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology 1955)
 Dr Shahid Amin (St Mary's Hospital Medical School 1980)
 Dr John A. Apps (Mining 1961)
 Mr Jiaming Bai (MSc Computing 2012)
 Emeritus Professor Martin A. Bennett (Chemistry 1957, PhD 1960)
 Mr Robert E. Borland (Physics 1958, 1960)
 Mr John E. Bowman (Electrical Engineering 1976)
 Mr James D. Briggs (Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology 1972, DIC Metallurgy 1973)
 Emeritus Professor Elizabeth U. Canning Wilson (Botany 1951, PhD 1955)
 Mr Richard M. Conn (Physics 1966)
 Mr Jeff Cooper and Mrs Stephanie Cooper
 Mr Michael H. Davies (Physics 1976)
 Mr Ted F.F. Davis (Chemistry 1950)
 Dr Fergus J. Dignan (Westminster Hospital Medical School 1979)
 Mr David W. Draper (Electrical Engineering 1957)
 Mr Kenneth D. Ebborn (Mathematics 1962)
 Dr Christopher M.M. Ettles (Mechanical Engineering 1958, PhD 1964)

Mr John E. Fadelle (Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology 1968)
 Mr Peter A. Firth (MSc Computing and Control 1973)
 Mrs Pamela Gilbert
 Mrs Eleni Gioti née Yotis (MSc Civil Engineering 1985)
 Dr Jeff R. Greenleaf (Physics 1962)
 Mr Lee J. Griffin (Biochemistry 1991)
 Mr Geoffrey W. Hawkins (Mathematics and Mechanics 1945, Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry 1949) and Mrs Judith Hawkins
 Ms Zhe He (MSc Civil and Environmental Engineering 2013)
 Dr Edgar Horne (PhD Electrical Engineering 1978)
 Mr Michael Hosker (Electrical Engineering 1964) and Mrs Andrea Hosker
 Mr Robert O. Hunt (Mining and Mineral Technology 1976)
 Mr Antonios I. Ioannou (MSc Civil Engineering 1986)
 Mr Richard H. Janes (Mining 1955)
 Mr Roy E. Jarvis (Electrical Engineering 1952, DIC Physics 1957)
 Mr Spencer C.K. Lai (Materials 2009)
 Mrs Jane M. Lillie née Jones (Biochemistry 1985)
 Mr Rollo H. Malcolm-Green (Mechanical Engineering 1966, Civil Engineering 1969) and Mrs Anne S. Malcolm-Green
 Mr John H. Moore (Physics 1965)
 Professor John W. Murray (Geology 1959, PhD 1961)
 Mr Dionyssios T. Mylonas (MBA Management School 1992)
 Eur Ing Shanker M.N. Nair (MSc Civil Engineering 1996)
 Dr Chan Nyein (DIC Mechanical Engineering 1974, PhD 1979)
 Professor Abdurrahim Ozgenoglu (MPhil Mining and Mineral Technology 1977) and Ms Mukadder Ozgenoglu
 Mr Phocharavidh Phuphatana (MSc Electrical and Electronic Engineering 2014)
 Miss Diana L. Porter
 Mr Philip R. Price (Electrical Engineering 1984)
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 Dr David C. Robinson (PhD Computing 1988)
 Dr Jane M. Rouse (St Mary's Hospital Medical School 1971)
 Mr Brian G. Smale (Physics 1964)
 Mr Justin O. Warwick (Mechanical Engineering 1957, MSc 1960, MSc History of Science, Technology and Medicine 2005)
 Miss Sylvia I. Watson (Physics 1973)
 Mr Zdzislaw L.J. Woloszczuk (DIC Civil Engineering 1952)
 Mr Murat Yapca (MSc Mining and Mineral Technology 1973)
 Plus six anonymous legacy pledgers



Imperial alumnus David Cooper (Physics 1967) is shown here on a visit to the Wohl Outreach Lab. Mr Cooper has pledged to remember Imperial in his Will.



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First year Earth Science & Engineering students take part in a three-day field trip to Dorset.

Front cover: William Wilson (Biology 2014) carries out tests on Arabidopsis plants in the Department of Life Sciences. His experiment looks at whether defence proteins in these plants influence their resistance to aphid attack.



For more information, contact the Advancement Division:

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