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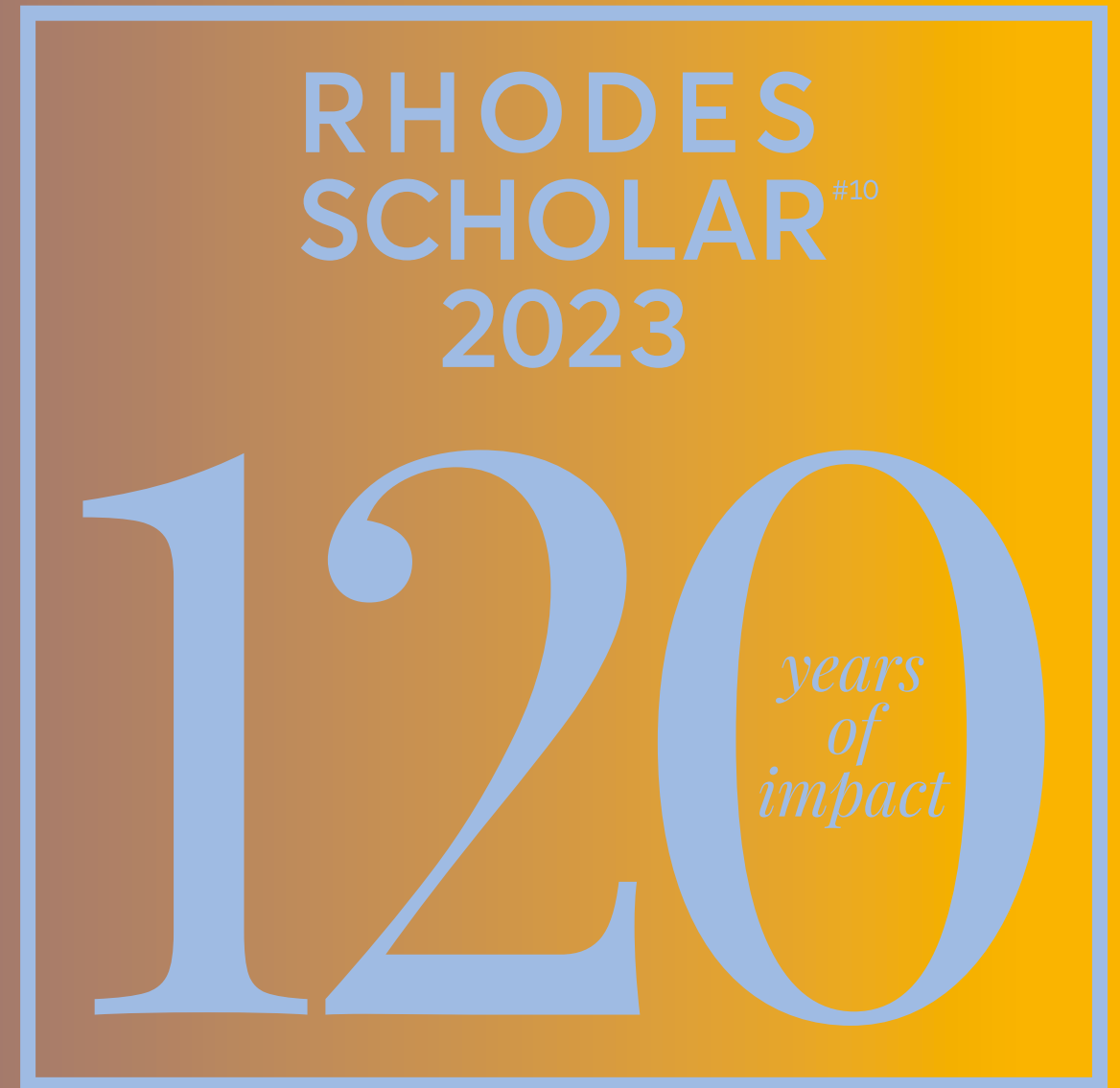
 Rhodes Trust

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 The Rhodes Trust Podcast

THE RHODES TRUST

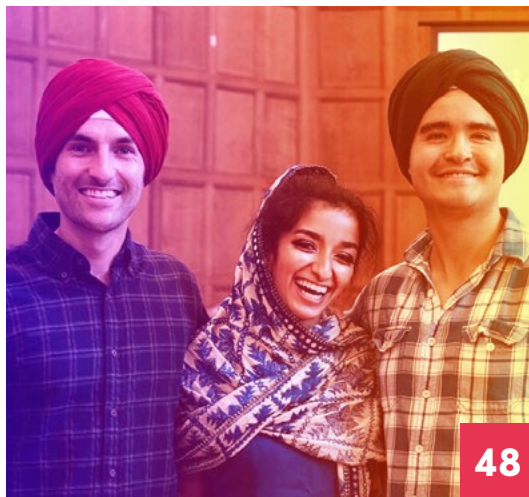
RHODES SCHOLAR 2023



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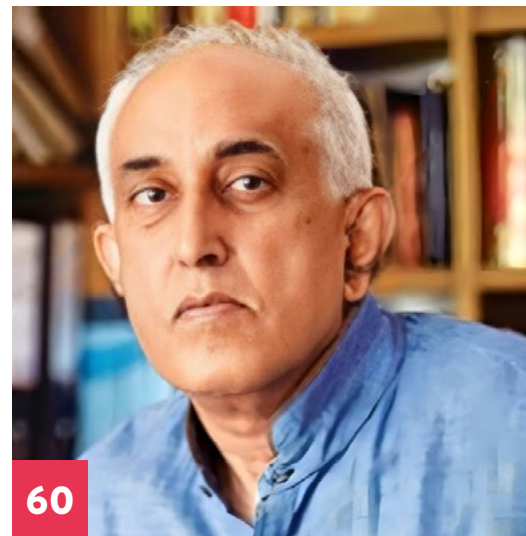
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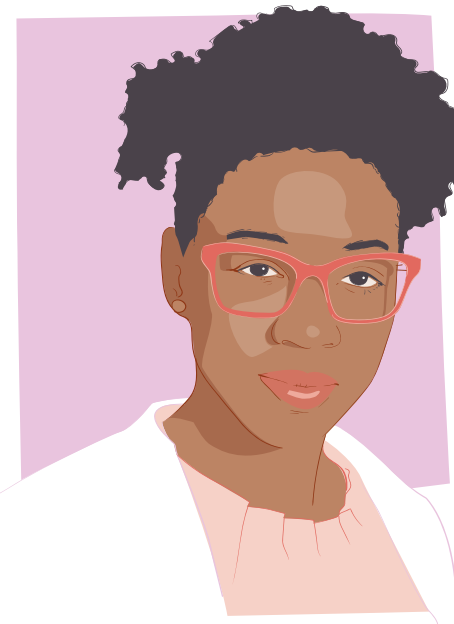
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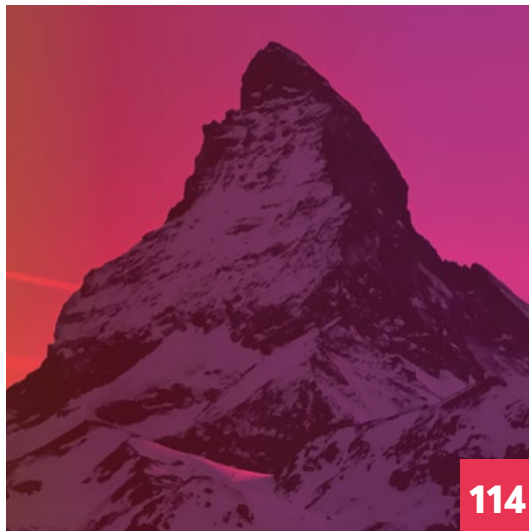
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Welcome to the 2023 edition of the *Rhodes Scholar* magazine! 2023 is a year of celebration as we mark 120 years of the Rhodes Scholarship and re-open Rhodes House in its stunningly beautiful and impactful 21st-century reincarnation. All of this is the result of joint effort by Trustees, staff, architects, builders and many members of the Scholar community and I want to warmly thank everyone who has been involved.

Whilst Rhodes House is a physical building of golden Cotswold stone, it is also a shared space. It is a home-from-home for our Scholars in Residence, where they enjoy Meet and Mingles, participate in Character, Service and Leadership retreats, listen to memorable speakers, auction promises to raise funds for African NGOs, celebrate Lunar New Year, and much more. It is also a hive of activity for our staff team, a conference centre for big ideas, and a vibrant meeting point for our partnership programmes and the wider University of Oxford ecosystem.

If you are reading this magazine because it was handed to you during the 120th Anniversary celebrations, I hope you thoroughly enjoy yourself during the action-packed programme of events and that you also manage to reconnect with your classmates and favourite spaces around the city. You will be able to wander the corridors of Rhodes House, see the new glass pavilion on the lawn, explore the convening hall and see for yourself the dramatic changes which have taken place, alongside the

almost unchanged historic Herbert Baker building that you will remember from your own time in Oxford. If you are reading this magazine after it landed on your doormat, I hope you will get a chance to visit Oxford again soon and see the new space for yourself. We will be delighted to welcome you. The Scholars young and not-so-young who have contributed articles to this year's magazine show our community's enduring passion for change and for 'fighting the world's fights' through many different routes, including some delightfully non-traditional ones. It has been wonderful to read all their stories of impact, creativity and collaboration.

Warmly,

Dr Elizabeth Kiss (Virginia & Balliol 1983)
Warden of Rhodes House



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Editorial Information

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Class of 2022 who arrived in Oxford last autumn

Class of 2023

The new class which will arrive in Oxford in September 2023 consists of 104 exceptional young people. These Scholars intend to pursue 71 different courses, ranging from degrees in Energy Systems and Theoretical Physics through to those in English and Art History.

Scholars-Elect this year come from 31 different countries and they speak 40 languages. This highlights the diversity and global reach of the Rhodes Scholarship. The Scholarship brings future leaders together from across the world in order to foster international understanding and nourish valuable cross-border friendships.

The class of 2023 coming to Oxford will have completed their undergraduate studies at 77 institutions in 25 countries. A majority of the class of 2023 are women. These outstanding young people will come to study at the University of Oxford which is currently ranked as the world's number one higher education institution. They will study for postgraduate degrees that last two or more years. Members of the class of 2023 include those from a very wide range of theoretical disciplines and professional backgrounds. Represented in the incoming class of Scholars are doctors, lawyers, astrophysicists, serving military personnel, social scientists, chemists and data scientists. The courses that they will be pursuing include work that ranges from attempts to understand and combat misinformation, through climate policy, to research that focuses on medical advances and neuroscience.

Legacy, Equity and Inclusion update

Our reputation as the world's most distinguished academic scholarship rests not on the controversial life of our founder but on the enormous contributions our Scholars have made to the world. Today, we are called to join the struggle for equality and inclusion of all peoples of diverse backgrounds and identities, to eradicate systemic racism and confront legacies of slavery, imperialism and colonialism.

Three Advisory Groups, *Re-imagining Rhodes House*, *Responding to our History* and *The Trust and Africa in the 21st Century* are taking part in our 120th Anniversary Reunion, enabling the community to hear updates on progress and contribute to wide-ranging discussions.

Guiding Principles

In developing and continuing to refine and update our work, we are guided by the following principles:

Fidelity to the Trust's Mission to develop compassionate, innovative and public-spirited people committed to solving humanity's challenges;

Alignment & Integration with the Trust's 125th Anniversary Strategic Plan – Lifelong Fellowship for Global Impact;

Humility and Radical Inclusion: a willingness to listen and learn from diverse perspectives across our global, cross-generational fellowship and beyond it;

Curiosity, Honesty and Intellectual Rigour about the past and the present; and

A Spirit of Acknowledgement, Reconciliation and Reparation to shape priorities and guide actions.

To read more about our work, go to www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/impact-legacy/legacy-equity-inclusion/

The African Rhodes Scholar Survey

Part of *The Trust and Africa in the 21st Century* Advisory Group's work is gathering and synthesising ideas across and beyond the global Rhodes community on what the Trust should aspire to do and be in our 21st-century relationships and activities across the continent of Africa.

A survey was sent to all African Rhodes Scholars (Alumni Scholars and Scholars in Residence) in March. This solicited feedback on the Scholar experience, identifying opportunities for the Trust to support Scholars wishing to return to their home countries, and brainstorming ideas for commemorating Africa in the Trust.

The survey was triggered by internal data showing that less than 40% of all African Rhodes Scholars currently live in their home countries. The breakdown is: Namibia (0%); Zimbabwe (3%); Botswana (33%); Zambia (35%); South Africa (40%); Kenya (42%); Uganda (50%); Nigeria (62%); and Ghana (67%). This contrasts with larger constituencies where the majority return: United States (86%); Canada (67%); and Australia (67%). However, the trend in Africa is similar to India (37%) and Pakistan (41%).

The data triggered questions: do African Rhodes Scholars intend returning to their home countries after their studies but are hindered by lack of opportunities and network? If so, how can the Trust assist? Alternatively, do they intend spending periods in and out of Africa throughout their lives? If so, how can we ensure they continue to contribute to Africa in a meaningful way, shifting the narrative from brain drain to brain trust?

If you are an African Rhodes Scholar who did not receive the survey, or if you have additional thoughts on the Trust's relationship with Africa please email the Co-Chair Muloongo Muchelemba at muloongo.muchelemba@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk



Delivering on Conviction

Growing up in South Africa, **Shehnaaz Suliman MB, ChB, MPhil, MBA** (South Africa-at-Large & Balliol 1997) took part in the struggle against Apartheid. When she came to Oxford, she began to see how she could navigate a course from activism to advocacy. Here, she talks about raising our voices in the service of others.

I came to the Scholarship as an activist. I grew up in South Africa, with few opportunities – face to face with Apartheid and fuelled by purpose. As a classified ‘non-white’, I was affected by the inequalities and divisiveness of institutionalised racism. Apartheid intruded on every aspect of life. My parents had lived in ‘District Six’, a beautiful, colourful, multi-racial community at the base of Table Mountain in Cape Town. When it was abruptly declared a ‘whites-only’ area under the Group Areas Act of 1950, thousands were forcibly removed to the Cape Flats, a barren wasteland on the far side of Table Mountain. I grew up in this wasteland, devoting my high school years to protesting Apartheid, staring down tanks, being teargassed and campaigning for Nelson Mandela’s release. I will never forget 11 February 1990, the day of Mandela’s release after 25 years of imprisonment, when he stood on the balcony of Cape Town City Hall and gave his first address as a free man, proclaiming gratitude to the “millions of compatriots... in every corner of the globe... whose tireless and heroic sacrifices have made it possible for

‘Apartheid intruded on every aspect of life’

‘It was at Oxford that I realised being an advocate could be as powerful as being an activist’

me to be here today.” I recall thinking we had fought Apartheid and won. It was a powerful realisation that we can effect big step changes in justice – and that steadfast conviction and courage are key.

I went to med school as part of the first bigger cohort of ‘non-white’ students to attend the traditional ‘whites-only’ medical school at the University of Cape Town. It was a tremendous opportunity to advance my mission of improving healthcare for all. As a med student and physician, I viewed firsthand the continued cloud of Apartheid, evident in the lack of basic infrastructure such as running water and electricity in the townships, and huge deficits in basic primary healthcare services. It was impossible to put a band-aid on primary care by showing up in mobile clinics once a week. What was needed was a systematic approach to primary care, and it needed to be a clear priority of government. While others wrote the new constitution for South Africa’s future, I and my medical compatriots on the frontline of the democratic movement found ourselves outlining the principles of a health charter that would safeguard basic healthcare rights for all South Africans.

I did my residency in a mining hospital in a bastion of conservative right-wing white nationalism. Although Apartheid had officially ended, it was still very much alive in the town of Welkom, where black migrant labourers from Lesotho and Zimbabwe did hard labour under the watchful eye of white mine managers. As medical residents we cared for patients at a time when South Africa and the world were hit hard by the scourge of HIV, with no treatments on the horizon. The misery of working the mines was also compounded by occupational hazards such as lung diseases and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, acquired from living in narrow quarters and being at the rock face drilling for hours on end. The scale of the public health crisis was immense, and it was compounded by the HIV/

AIDS epidemic. This was the point at which I had the great fortune to be awarded the South Africa-at-Large Scholarship and I came to Oxford in 1997. My mission was public health and I opted for Development Studies – eager to learn about structural constraints and opportunities to effect change on a large scale. It was at Oxford that I forged pacts with others who also wanted to change the world. Within the Rhodes community, I built lifelong friendships with kindred spirits who would lead with purpose to advance fair trade, access for children and adults with disabilities, and so many other inspiring, worthy needs.

It was at Oxford that I realised being an advocate could be as powerful as being an activist, and that influencing policy or shaping creative collaborations could effect change far beyond the reach of a single practitioner. After my MBA at Saïd Business School and a pass-through in healthcare banking, I came to Gilead Sciences on the West Coast of the US, a global leader in a one-pill treatment regimen that was fundamentally transforming the lives of those with HIV. From my experience in the mines, I understood the transformational potential of this treatment in developing countries, where the burden of the disease hit hardest.

We grappled with how to make these HIV medications available and accessible to those who most needed them, and ultimately decided to make cheap, generic copies of our drugs at the lowest possible cost, through partnerships with companies in India. I was entrusted with negotiating public and private company partnerships with generic companies to facilitate access to our medications. We would do this in the most efficient and cost-effective way possible by giving select generic manufacturing companies free access to our manufacturing technology, while prohibiting the sales of these generic medicines in commercial markets, where the branded versions of the drugs were still being sold on patent. We did not do this for commercial reasons, but because it was clear that it was the right thing to do.

When we executed these deals in 2005, a few thousand people in the developing world were on HIV drugs. By the time we had completed the licence, we had several million people on life-saving HIV medicines. By 2021, Gilead’s expanded access licensing agreement was enabling medicines for an estimated 16.5 million people living with HIV in resource-limited countries around the world. I felt vindicated; the guilt of stepping away from caring for individual patients was assuaged by advocacy and creativity in the biopharma industry that has reached far beyond what any one practitioner can achieve.

Today, as CEO of ReCode Therapeutics in the heart of Silicon Valley, I hope to power the next wave of genetic medicine through superior delivery. Building on the advances that enabled COVID-19 mRNA vaccines, our intent is to go beyond vaccines to delivering novel genetic medicines to millions of patients who have exhausted the treatment options available today. In addition, I continue to be an advocate for broader issues of importance to biotech. These include campaigning for increased board diversity through the Executive Women in Bio, Board Room Ready Program which I chair. I also work together with a coalition of biotech female CEOs to support women’s health issues and to secure and protect women’s access to reproductive healthcare choices in the US, which are under threat.

My work in the anti-Apartheid movement fuelled my life-long desire to advocate for justice and equity. My time at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar was instrumental in shaping my ideas about how to evolve from a revolutionary activist in the context of Apartheid to being a strategic leader delivering change on a much larger scale. This continues to take the form of advocacy in healthcare, women’s rights, empowerment and social justice as it relates to healthcare. From the early days of understanding these disparities as a physician in the townships to being a CEO at the cusp of an exciting area of innovation in a biotech company, I have navigated a course from activist to advocate.

Perhaps being an activist was always in my DNA – but the experience afforded by the Scholarship proved to be a great amplifier, cementing a lifelong path to impact in the

service of others. I am constantly inspired by those I have had the privilege to cross paths with, and by those who continue to make a formidable difference in so many ways. This is what is fundamental about our Scholar identity. It’s not just about what we brought with us to Oxford or what we learnt while there. It’s very much about what comes after Oxford – the continued realisation of our great privilege, and never losing sight of the real gift: the ability to raise our voices, to use this formidable launchpad to solve the most pressing issues of our time.

‘The experience afforded by the Scholarship proved to be a great amplifier’



The Opening of Rhodes House and Scholars' Reunion, 1929

This year will see the reopening of Rhodes House following renovations, as well as many events planned as part of the 120th anniversary reunion of Scholars. Here, we take a look at some documents from the Rhodes Trust's Archive which shed light on a similarly key year in the history of the Scholarships – 1929, which saw the original opening of Rhodes House, plus the 25th anniversary reunion of Scholars.

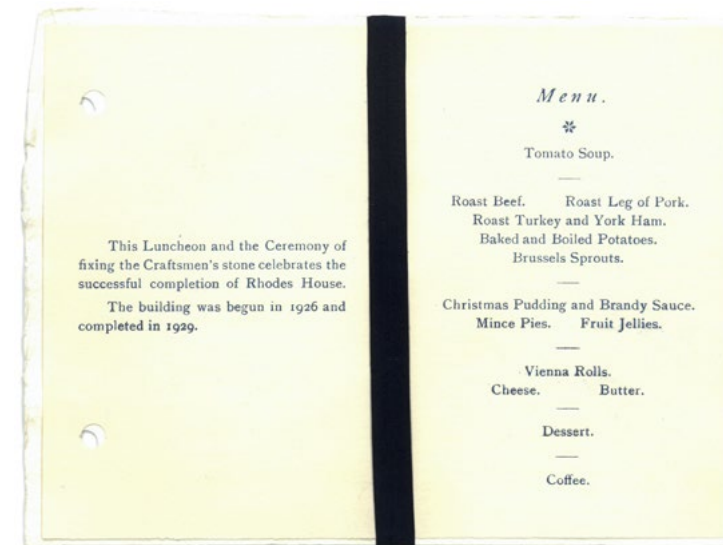
“The Trustees have erected here a beautiful Rhodes House of wood and stone. We ex-Scholars feel at home in it because of an invisible structure made of kindness and sympathy and human understanding which Sir Francis and Lady Wylie have built up during the last twenty-five years.”
*From the speech of Frank Aydelotte, American Secretary of the Rhodes Trust, given at the Scholars' 25th Anniversary Reunion dinner on 5 July 1929.*¹



Rhodes House shortly after completion, prior to gardens being finished, c.1928

¹ Rhodes Trust Archive file RT/275A (2)

There were three main opening events for Rhodes House in 1929, the first being a lunch given by Trustees for the craftsmen who had worked on the building. The Trustees had decided on a lunch rather than an evening dinner to allow the craftsmen – who included builders, engineers, sculptors and furniture-makers, among others – time to look round the newly-completed building before it got dark. The event included a ceremony to fix the ‘Craftsmen’s stone’ to mark the completion of the building. Trustee Sir Edward Peacock gave a speech, thanking them for the “thorough and painstaking labour” which had been put into the building and pointing out that while those present would pass away, “the fact that [you] have erected a beautiful building in one of the most famous places of learning in the world will continue to influence and ennoble countless generations in the future”.²



Menu for Craftsmen's luncheon, 12 January 1929

The official ‘opening’ of Rhodes House was at a garden party on a sunny spring day in May, to which more than 1,000 guests, primarily from the University of Oxford, were invited. The ceremony was attended by the Chancellor, Sir Edward Grey, who received the gift of the Rhodes House Library of books on Commonwealth and US topics (located in the Rosebery Room), on behalf of the Bodleian. Trustee Sir Otto Beit declared the House open and acquainted guests with the purposes he hoped the building would serve: as a memorial to Cecil Rhodes, an Oxford base for the administration of the Scholarships, and as lecture/meeting facilities for the University.

The third opening event was for the Scholars. This saw 200 Alumni travelling to Oxford, many bringing wives and children, to marvel at the new building and enjoy a week’s programme of activities. The focal point of the reunion was a dinner for Scholars at Rhodes House on 5 July, attended by the Prince of Wales and presided over by Stanley Baldwin, who had finished his second term as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom the previous month. The Trustees used the dinner to formally announce the resumption of the German Scholarships, which had been abolished during the First World War. Other highlights of the reunion event programme included a sermon delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury on 7 July, a dinner for Scholars’ wives, a garden party given by Viscountess Astor at Cliveden, a Government reception in Westminster

² RT/2637 (5)

Hall and charabanc excursions to destinations including the Henley Regatta, Warwick and the London Docks (courtesy of the Port of London Authority).

The *American Oxonian* wrote of the reunion: "Men from America greeted old friends from far away colonies and from Oxford for the first time in many years and found that Oxford was once again their mutual home."³

Many of the Scholars travelling to Oxford for the reunion were coming from the US and Canada, so the Association of American Rhodes Scholars (AARS) organised a sailing party. Although in the end, a different Canadian Pacific ship, the *Empress of Scotland*, rather than the *Duchess of Richmond*, was used, this brochure gives an indication of what the ship may have been like. The crossing took seven days from Quebec to Southampton, with 150 Scholars and family members aboard. The Scholars kept themselves busy with deck tennis, meetings on matters affecting American Rhodes Scholars and a "smoking room pool", the *American Oxonian* remarking that the days of the crossing were "a very pleasant interlude devoted to the revival of old friendships and the establishment of new ones".⁴

OPENING OF RHODES HOUSE
10 May 1929

Weather permitting, the ceremony will take place in the open, in the Court on the South side of the building.

SIR OTTO BEIT, senior Rhodes Trustee, will declare the building open, and will offer the Library to the University, to serve as a department of the Bodleian.

THE CHANCELLOR will reply on behalf of the University.

MR. J. H. HOFMEYR (Balliol 1913-16), ex-Rhodes Scholar, sometime Principal, and now Vice-Chancellor, of the Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg, and recently Administrator of the Transvaal, will speak on behalf of past Rhodes Scholars.


Tea will be served in the Hall and in the two adjacent lecture-rooms, and ices in the garden.

Should the weather be wet, speeches will be in the Hall, and ices will, in that case, be served in the upper Gallery and in the Secretary's house, and not in the garden.

By permission of Colonel Lord Henry Seymour, D.S.O., the String Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards (Director of Music: Captain G. Miller) will play selections of Music.

Notice of opening ceremony for Rhodes House, 10 May 1929

Oxford
Reunion
of the
Association of American Rhodes Scholars
JULY 4-11, 1929



Duchess of Richmond
20,000 GROSS TONS

From Montreal, June 19, 1929

Canadian Pacific

Mrs. G. B. British Lady.

Viscountess Astor
at Home
Tuesday, July 9th
Cliveden, Taplow, Bucks.

R.S.V.P.
The Secretary,
Rhodes Trust,
Seymour House,
Waterloo Place, S.W.1.

Garden Party.
3 to 6 p.m.

Professor and Mrs. Holdsworth
At Home
Monday, July 8th, 1929, 4-6
in the
Codrington Library, All Souls College

R. S. V. P. to
Grandport House
Tolly Bridge
Dublin

To meet
The Vice-Chancellor

The Rhodes Trustees
request the pleasure of your company
at
a Ladies' Dinner
in Rhodes House, Sunday, July 7th, at 7.30 p.m.

R.S.V.P.
The Secretary,
Rhodes House,
Oxford.

Tickets and invitations for 25th Anniversary Reunion week events

The Rhodes Trustees
invite

*to be present in Oxford on Friday, the 5th July 1929,
and the following days, for the
Reunion of old Rhodes Scholars,
to celebrate the Opening of Rhodes House,
and the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Establishment
of the Rhodes Scholarships.*

*The Prince of Wales has graciously promised to be present at the Dinner
on Friday the 5th July, 1929.*

*R.S.V.P. F. J. Wylie, Esq.,
Rhodes House,
Oxford.*

Invitation to the 25th anniversary Reunion, July 1929

To American Rhodes Scholars:

Your Committee, after a most careful scrutiny, has designated the Canadian Pacific as the official transportation company for the 1929 Reunion at Oxford. It has selected for the official sailing the newest cabin ship afloat—the S. S. *Duchess of Richmond*. The Company appreciates the honour implied in this choice and will do its utmost to make your trip a memorable one in every respect.

The Ship.

The *Duchess of Richmond* is twenty thousand tons gross register, with a length of six hundred feet and a breadth of seventy-five feet. It is propelled by the latest type of turbine engines burning oil fuel. It was launched on the Clyde in 1928 and will make its maiden trip in January, 1929. Built especially for high grade cabin traffic, at a moderate rate, and with outstanding tourist third class accommodations, the *Duchess of Richmond* embodies many unusual innovations and creates a new standard of excellence. The Company's faith in the suitability of this ship is indicated by the building of four identical *Duchess* ships in the last twelve months.

Accommodations.

Modern beds are standard equipment in most of the staterooms, which are remarkably spacious. All cabin rooms have open porcelain wash basins with running hot and cold water, large mirrored wardrobes, chests of drawers, and reading lights over each bed. Your Committee has reserved the majority of cabin class rooms and an excellent block of staterooms in the tourist third, sailing from Montreal on June 19th. We illustrate here some types of staterooms with their prices. Under separate cover, your Committee sends you a plan of the ship, a complete rate sheet and sailing list.



Lounge-BALL ROOM



Room 173—\$190.00 each



Room 248—\$162.50 each



SMOKING ROOM

Brochure for passage on Canadian Pacific ship

³ *American Oxonian*, Volume XVI, No. 4, October 1929

⁴ *Ibid.*

The New Rhodes House

The building work at Rhodes House is nearing completion and we celebrate the new spaces and opportunities it provides.



A Different Kind of Banking

Hasini Reddy, MD, DPhil (Newfoundland & Trinity 1998) is a neuropathologist and Associate Professor at Columbia University in New York City and is Co-Director of the New York Brain Bank. Here, she tells us about the vital role that brain banks play in pushing out the boundaries of research.



In 2009, shortly after my residency, I attended a New Year's Eve party in Boston. As a current New Yorker, I notice ice-breakers often revolve around real estate, but a certain Bostonian will immediately and tediously turn to the question of careers. Reliably "What do you do?" comes up in the first minutes of meeting someone. At this party, I overheard a young woman

answer with an enthusiastic "I'm a neuropathologist". I joyfully turned and said "REALLY? ME TOO!"

This excitement, on my part, came from knowing that there are very few of us in America or Canada, where I trained, and in the world, and also because I thought I knew all the ones in Boston, both at Harvard and the one at Boston University, so it would be highly unusual to just encounter one in the wild. Because there are only several hundred who do this full time, we have our international

'There are only several hundred who do this full time'

meeting every four years instead of annually like most other specialties. We then try not to all take the same plane or stay at the same hotel. Anyway, she paused and said “No, not really. I just said that because I heard the word neuropathologist recently and thought it was the most ridiculous sounding job I had ever heard.” This was before Will Smith, in *Concussion*, tried to make neuropathology a thing so I don’t know what she had watched or read that made her so disdainful.

On that note, let me tell you about neuropathology which I practise at Columbia University in New York, and about brain banking, as I co-direct the New York Brain Bank also at Columbia with the Taub Institute for research on Alzheimer’s Disease and the Aging Brain. The clinical practice of neuropathology involves the diagnosis and grading of diseases of the brain, muscle, nerve and

‘The clinical practice of neuropathology involves the diagnosis and grading of diseases of the brain, muscle, nerve and spinal cord’

spinal cord. Essentially, with living patients, anything a neurosurgeon takes out comes to us to be looked at under a microscope, often involving a myriad of special stains that allow us to determine what types of cells are involved and even how fast they are dividing. Increasingly, we also do panels of genetic and molecular testing, particularly for muscle diseases, such as muscular dystrophies, and brain tumours, which now rely heavily on genetic profiles for diagnosis and susceptibility to treatment.

I see a spectrum of disease from spinal discs, to vascular malformations, abscesses, brain haemorrhages, stroke, multiple sclerosis and tumours, both adult and paediatric. Occasionally there is even a prion disease, such as Creutzfeldt-Jacob, a human variant of mad cow disease. Generally, the biopsy or tissue is removed, fixed in paraffin sections, cut and stained before coming to me to review. However, often in the middle of surgery, particularly for tumours, I do a ‘frozen section’ where we flash freeze a

sample, stain it quickly and give the surgeon a preliminary diagnosis which can change the course of surgery or post-surgical treatment. Some tumours have such a dismal prognosis that there is no point in proceeding with a long, more dangerous surgery. Others have urgent treatment that can be offered in the coming days instead of waiting a week for final results. Lymphoma responds well to urgent steroid therapy, metastatic cancer to radiation. An infection or abscess can be treated immediately.

A significant part of my work is with autopsy brains. In paediatric patients, we can see the signs of congenital malformations or genetic illness, such as neurofibromatosis or tuberous sclerosis. We can determine the cause of a stroke or haemorrhage, or where and how old the lesions of multiple sclerosis are. Most useful is our role in diagnosing neurodegenerative disease, such as Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s,

Lewy Body dementia, Huntington’s disease, frontotemporal dementia and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, among others. Some of these diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Lewy Body dementia are very difficult to diagnose in the living patient and there can be other illnesses that confuse the clinical picture, which is why pathological exam is essential. Of course, when there is a family history of dementia or neurodegenerative disease, diagnosis and often genetic testing is crucial. Also, as Will Smith showed us on film, or in the news with athletes playing football, hockey, rugby and even soccer, we find the signs of acute trauma and chronic traumatic encephalopathy as well as signs of brain injury from toxins or lack of oxygen.

Brain banking is an extremely important resource for research. At the New York brain bank, we have a multidisciplinary group for Alzheimer’s, and movement disorders including Parkinson’s, ALS and MS, among other diseases. We receive brains from donors from all

over the country. Half the brain is cut and kept as fresh or frozen sections for examination by researchers while some is fragmented and frozen for protein or gene studies. The other half is fixed in formalin, then dissected and made into paraffin sections, to be stained and made into slides for diagnosis. The detailed findings from these fixed slides as well as clinical history are entered into a database. Researchers from our institution or around the country or world can then search the database to find exactly the type of tissue they need and request it from us, just like a bank. Control brain tissue is crucial and rare. Please consider donating brain tissue when the time comes for either yourselves or family members. We need your brains to find ways for early diagnosis and treatments for all these diseases. You can contact your local brain bank for details if you live near a large university with a neuroscience research centre. Donation plans should be made well in advance if it is something your loved ones would be interested in.

So, I hope that explains a little of what we do and what we are working towards. And if you ever pretend to be a neuropathologist at a party, remember, you never know who might be listening in.

‘At the New York brain bank, we have a multidisciplinary group for Alzheimer’s, and movement disorders including Parkinson’s, ALS and MS, among other diseases’

How It Happened

The opening of the Scholarship to women in 1976 was transformative, but the story of how it came about is not well known. Here, **Gordon Kepner** (North Dakota & Keble 1958) gives his first-hand account of the seminal event and its aftermath, the woman at the centre of it, and how this led to the decision for change.

It was the early 1970s. The Scholarship had been closed to women since its inception in 1904. No significant movement had yet arisen to attempt changing that until the unprecedented transformative action initiated by Eileen Lach in 1972. She directly challenged the exclusion of women from competing for a Rhodes Scholarship. In autumn of 1976 that historically closed door finally opened.

In October 1972 the University of Minnesota's Rhodes Scholarship Nominating Committee (all male, nearly all Rhodes Scholars, including myself) met to interview a dozen men applying for the Rhodes Scholarship. The Committee's evaluation of each candidate would be added to his application and forwarded to the State Committee.

A unique dilemma awaited us. A woman had applied, despite the fact she was not eligible. She waited to be

interviewed. What to do? A spirited debate eventually resolved, narrowly, to interview her, after the 12 men.

As I recall now, she entered the room, taking the grilling seat at the end of the table. The first question came, "Why are you doing this?" Her thoughtful exposition cogently and forcefully addressed the essential unfairness of the exclusion policy and its harmful effects on women. We became increasingly uncomfortable. The interview continued at some length with challenging questions probing her intellectual capabilities, tense exchanges and a growing awareness of her powerful case for abandoning the restriction.

Her interview concluded. We prepared evaluations for each man, then took up the woman. She was the strongest candidate on the merits with excellent chances of prevailing at the State and Regional interviews – absent her gender. I recollect the discussion

turning contentious. That old saw ("not our place to disrupt the rules") was tossed about. It is difficult to convey fully the tension in the room resulting from the uncomfortable discussion elicited by her interview. As far as we knew, no woman had ever directly challenged the exclusion issue, let alone participated in an interview. Some were decidedly nervous about treading new and treacherous ground. They were especially concerned about precedent and overreach – wasn't this too important for such a low-level committee to take on? In the end, her outstanding academic record, strong supporting letters, honours thesis work in India for two years, and her impressive interview with its compelling exposition of the issue persuaded us to abandon 'The Rule'. We broke rank, forwarding a very strong recommendation that the State Committee

seriously consider Eileen Lach for a Rhodes Scholarship.

The American Secretary to the Rhodes Trust was aware of her challenge and her interview by Rhodes Scholars on a University Nominating Committee who went further, actually forwarding her application to the State Committee. He instructed them not to interview her. But Eileen Lach's challenge wasn't to end there.

An account appeared in the student newspaper, then in local newspapers. Her story was picked up nationally. The Minnesota office of the American Civil Liberties Union took up the cause. It sparked wider awareness about this discriminatory policy. Media throughout America brought the issue to the attention of a much broader segment of the public. Uncomfortable questions arose within academe ("How can you cooperate with this?") and within the political world ("What have you done to change this?"). Women, and men, throughout

America now joined the effort to effect change. The issue was finally out of the closet.

Eileen Lach's courage, strong belief in herself and personal commitment to issues of human rights and justice motivated her to take up this challenge – while recognising the Rhodes Trust was unlikely to let her prevail. She chose to push on anyway, hoping to arouse others, especially women, to take up the cause. And it worked. Just one year later, in October 1973, the *Harvard Crimson* reported the following: "... Harvard follows a precedent set by the University of Minnesota,

which endorsed Eileen Lach in 1972." Three women students at Harvard had applied for the Rhodes Scholarship. Women at other Universities and Colleges now joined the movement.

Finally, political pressure mounted in England, including further involvement by Eileen Lach.

While working for Amnesty International in London in 1975 she lobbied a member of Parliament – that same year Parliament effectively nullified the exclusion clause in the will of Cecil Rhodes.

In autumn 1976, the first women Rhodes Scholars were selected to come up to Oxford in September 1977. Absent that challenge by Eileen Lach in 1972, who could say with confidence when events might have eventually conspired to generate the political pressure required to effect this change?

Justice had been interminably and unconscionably delayed. Eileen Lach's unique and courageous challenge stimulated the redress of a long-standing damaging prohibition – by opening the opportunity to compete for a Rhodes Scholarship, benefiting both women worldwide and 'the world's fight'.

A unique dilemma awaited us. A woman had applied, despite the fact she was not eligible



The Class of 1977: the first to include women

Trailblazers

Nanette Fondas (West Virginia & Brasenose 1981) has recorded the oral histories of many of her 1981 classmates, tracing the life journeys of this extraordinary group of women. This is what she learned about the paths forged in life and in work by the first wave of Rhodes women.



In 1981, 18 North American college women joined history's legions of men to win the Rhodes Scholarship. Gifted students, athletes and leaders, the 18 crossed the Atlantic Ocean with their fellow Scholars on the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth II, reaching England's shores after five days. They were only the fifth class of scholars to include women. Arriving in the city of medieval walls and college halls, they felt excitement and trepidation. The legacy of Oxford and the Scholarship loomed large, as the women arrived at the doors to college quads with towers named Magdalen and Tom. These trailblazers were curious, driven and courageous – and no one knew quite how they would fare.

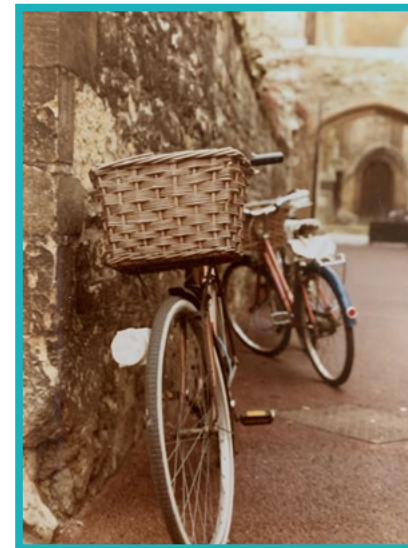
Today I can tell you what happened to them. I interviewed the majority of the class of 1981 women Scholars from both the United States and Canada. I recorded oral histories with them over Zoom, transcribed the recordings, and identified key themes and patterns in their life stories. The



The Class of 1981

interviews covered their early lives in their families, schools and communities, and their paths to earning a Rhodes. They discussed their feelings about becoming a Rhodes Scholar when women had been included only four years before. Many of the women hailed from small cities and towns, most had strong community or religious ties and all exhibited exceptional talent. Many were influenced by their World War II generation parents' priorities and sensibilities, coupled with the emerging second wave of the Women's Movement. The oral histories proceed through 40 years of these Scholars carving creative career and family paths.

This group of Rhodes Scholars is part of the first wave of women to land in Oxford and afterward find different ways to fight 'the world's fight'



The author's bike, leaning against Frewin Hall

This group of Rhodes Scholars is part of the first wave of women to land in Oxford and afterward find different ways to fight 'the world's fight'. After Oxford, the Scholars branched out to different places around the world, making choices when they reached critical crossroads. I wanted to learn about irreversible decisions, the stakes involved and the reasoning behind each decision. Whether to interrupt a career after the birth or adoption of a child was a common fork-in-the-road, but there were important others. One Scholar had such a comprehensive list of factors necessary to maintaining a sustainable two-parent, two-career family that I felt her Zoom transcript offered a 'how to' guide for parents. Others met this particular juncture with the solid commitment that one parent would stay home with the children – and it wasn't always the woman! Some Scholars lived separately

from their spouses to avoid derailing their careers.

One subset of this first wave of Rhodes women faced a series of life events that made staying on a traditional, hierarchical, rigid professional path untenable. This group was required to implement a strategy of workarounds, compromises, sacrifices and flexible arrangements to keep their work going and their families together. They faced what I call 'multiple, gruelling, contingent occurrences' that simply ruled out a career as defined conventionally. That's a big phrase. What does it include? Things like: illness and disability in the family; mental health, marital, or financial difficulty; a large number of children, some unexpected; job loss and downward mobility;

These trailblazers were curious, driven and courageous – and no one knew quite how they would fare

children with special needs and learning differences; and husbands who surprisingly desired their wives to adopt traditional roles with respect to child-rearing and the primacy of the man's career. A common underlying factor in these stories is the imperative to provide care for someone in the family.

Life events sorted Scholars into four groups: those oriented toward (1) dedication to family work; (2) dedication to professional work; (3) inventing a flexible family; and (4) inventing a flexible career. These four orientations produced ways of coping with life's unexpected and sometimes extreme turns. They also explain how the women's different paths led to their current destinations, after their years in Oxford ended.

The first wave of Rhodes women is a generation betwixt two eras. Their mothers rarely provided a model of a high-powered, full-time career woman. Their fathers also did not offer an example of a parent who was engaged highly in both parenting and paid work. The same is largely true of the women's mentors at their universities. With no map drawn by their forebearers, the women singly navigated turns and bumps in the road, blazing their own trails. The Rhodes Scholarship aided their advance; however, when they encountered crucial crossroads, especially decisions involving caregiving, the women elected to carve inventive and flexible paths – forging ahead fearlessly and big-heartedly.

The Rhodes Scholarship aided their advance; however, when they encountered crucial crossroads, especially decisions involving caregiving, the women elected to carve inventive and flexible paths



The author with three fellow MPhil students at the Oxford Centre for Management Studies (OCMS) including, on the far right, Michael Addison (Zimbabwe & St Edmund Hall 1981)



Danielle Fontaine (Québec & St John's 1981) with her husband Bill McLendon (Mississippi & Oriol 1981)

An Interview with US Representative Jim Himes

Michael Cheng (Pennsylvania & Magdalen 2022) in conversation with **Jim Himes** (New Jersey & St Edmund Hall 1988), Ranking Member of the United States House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Representative from Connecticut's 4th District.

“I’ll admit it, I’m a pretty boring guy. I’m not on TV saying we need to kill this group, or we need to change our Constitution. I’m out here talking about depreciation policy.”

Often eschewing the spotlight, US Representative Jim Himes has represented the residents of Connecticut’s Fourth District for over a decade. As Ranking Member of the House Intelligence Committee, Himes serves on Congress’ ‘Gang of Eight’ and oversees US national security policy.

Yet despite his lengthy tenure in Congress, Himes has spent most of his life outside of electoral politics. Himes earned a bachelor’s degree from Harvard, then headed to Oxford for a master’s degree in Latin American Studies as a Rhodes Scholar. He spent 12 years at Goldman Sachs and worked in affordable housing before running for the US House of Representatives in 2008. He was not expected to win against a popular two-decade incumbent. Polling conducted one month before the election had him ten percentage points behind his opponent, but Himes ended up winning with 51% of the vote, becoming the first member of his political party to represent his district in over 40 years.¹

Long before he was Representative Himes, he was Jim, a freshman year walk-on to Harvard’s varsity lightweight rowing team, which had just come off a string of mediocre seasons. Only one man in Jim’s boat had rowed before, but they managed to win the Eastern Sprints championships by 0.6 seconds. “It was brutal hard work, which ultimately paid off in our [the 1F freshman boat] winning the Eastern Sprints,” Jim reflects. “We also went to Henley. We were dispatched quickly, but going to Henley was pretty darn exciting.”

¹ www.nytimes.com/2008/10/12/nyregion/connecticut/12congct.html

By his senior year of college, Jim became team captain, attained an elite 2000-meter ergometer time of 6:20 and led the varsity crew to a win at the Eastern Sprints championships. He left his mark on the team; one of the oars in Harvard’s Newell boathouse is inscribed ‘Veritas in Stultitia – J.A.H. CPT ’88’ (*Veritas in Stultitia* is Latin for ‘truth in foolishness’). Looking back on his athletic career, Jim says “my college experience in sports was learning discipline, learning commitment, making enduring friendships and understanding leadership. I arguably learned as much in the boathouse as I did in the classroom, and I wish that experience was available to more people.”

In our second interview, Jim shows me a silver Concept2 rowing machine hidden behind his desk. He jokes that he could never match his college personal record today.



Jim Himes in the stroke seat of the Teddy Hall boat

Yet Jim was more than an athlete; he was a star scholar. At Harvard, he studied Social Studies – an interdisciplinary major spanning social theory, philosophy, politics and economics. Jim reflects, “I’d come from a small public school in central New Jersey. For the first time, I was exposed to big, wonderful ideas. To this day I say, it was better than sex. It was this incredibly wonderful feeling.”

‘My college experience in sports was learning discipline, learning commitment, making enduring friendships and understanding leadership’

After his senior year at Harvard, Jim became a Rhodes Scholar at St Edmund Hall, where he continued rowing. He looks back fondly on his time at Oxford: “Two years at Oxford was an opportunity to explore intellectual frontiers in an undisciplined way. The word ‘undisciplined’ sounds negative, but today, when there are these conveyor belts, it’s an enormously valuable experience. I read lots of things that had nothing to do with my curriculum. I came out of it with learning that I had not done as an undergraduate, an appreciation for another culture and wonderful, wonderful friends.”

After Oxford, Jim joined Goldman Sachs as a junior investment banker. He reflects, “I was excited to get out into the ‘real’ world. I’d reached my limit on theory, and the rate of learning when I was a scutworker [a trainee who performs tedious, menial work] at Goldman Sachs was immense: marketing, writing, negotiation, working 24 hours straight without a break.”

Jim is grateful for the practical training that he received at Goldman Sachs but feels that he spent too long within an elite bubble. “I stayed too long, because you get into a rhythm, maybe even a rut, and you lose your bearings in a prestigious organisation. One of the reasons that prestigious organisations remain prestigious is because they imbue in their employees the notion that there is no world outside Goldman Sachs or McKinsey or Blackstone or Sullivan and Cromwell or Harvard University. It’s inconceivable that you would leave these institutions. And that leads to lives that can be a little truncated, at least laterally. You can achieve stunning success, wealth beyond the dreams of Mammon, but you can lose your bearings.”

He reflects, “an awful lot of people my age have learned some tough lessons, which include the fact that wealth is nice, but will not fundamentally make you happy. That’s something that is lost on most people in their 20s, and it’s also pretty trite, right? The problem is not that you don’t know that to be true. The problem is that we don’t believe that to be true until we actually live it.” Moreover, “if you rely on the acclamation of others for your self-regard, you will hit some pretty ugly bumps in the road. Without in

any way denigrating the hunger that Rhodes Scholars in particular feel for wealth and prestige and fame, I would suggest that real success lies in doing the hard work to identify what moves you in a profound way. It can be anything. To me it’s public policy. The art of politics is fascinating to me. To others, it might be anything, but I would approach sceptically the proposition that it is necessarily being the senior partner at Goldman Sachs or McKinsey.”

I ask Jim about what he wishes he had known about careers in his 20s. What advice would he give his younger self? Jim responds, “I would tell myself that I spent too long on the proverbial conveyor belt. I would stop more often to look at other paths.” He continues, “I would hope that people who are at elite institutions might more easily think about unorthodox paths. It’s very easy to under-develop the faculty for looking inside for passion. That can be a problem later in life.”

Jim confesses that his younger self was at times blindly trusting of establishment institutions, until the Iraq War and the 2007-2008 financial crisis shook his faith. “In my 40s, I learned a lesson which is a hard lesson for Rhodes Scholars to learn: the very real possibility of decay and failure inside elite institutions. By 2008, when I was running for Congress, the economy was in ruins because people inside such institutions made catastrophic decisions. My coming-of-age experience was living the massive failure of elite institutions.”

Nevertheless, even after the financial crisis it often appeared that established institutions were too big to fail – including the US government. But for Jim, “another aspect of that coming-of-age experience was coming to realise that our democracy is fragile. I never believed that until 6 January 2021. I always assumed that it couldn’t happen here. I took it as an article of faith that it couldn’t happen here, so for me it was a real loss of innocence to realise that it absolutely could.”

“I was one of the last people out of the House Chamber on 6 January because I was stuck up in the gallery. They spread us out because of COVID-19, and they easily

‘Without in any way denigrating the hunger that Rhodes Scholars in particular feel for wealth and prestige and fame, I would suggest that real success lies in doing the hard work to identify what moves you in a profound way’



evacuated the floor. Windows breaking, a woman shot; we were stuck in the gallery because they didn’t know how to get us out. After about 20 minutes, they found a door they could take us out of. As we exited, to my right were a bunch of guys in full tactical gear aiming their assault weapons at a group of insurgents who were spread out on the floor.”

Jim pauses, then continues in a deeper voice: “Too many of us think democracy is God-given because our constitutive document says that it is, that we are endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights. It’s a beautiful phrase, but

it makes us think that democracy is a gift from the divine instead of a human construct that must be carefully tended.”

I ask Jim about what could be done to strengthen American democracy. He replies that the primary system means that “a tiny percentage of people elect the people who run for office, and as long as we have a primary system that allows 5% of a constituency to determine who the candidates are, that empowers the more extreme elements of our politics.” He suggests systemic tweaks to make politics less tribal: ranked-choice voting, campaign finance

‘The citizenry will get exactly the government we deserve. If we want to become fire-breathing, social media-driven creatures, uninterested in the facts and compromise, we will have an authoritarian government’

reform, and top-two primaries. Furthermore, he notes that “leaders like me need to model non-explosive behaviour and language.”

Jim argues that the pace of cultural and economic change has made American politics more tribal, threatened by what he labels “right-wing insurgent populism”. He explains: “it’s a reality of human psychology that people change slowly.”

It’s easy for someone to inject irritants into that disorientation. If people are feeling a little dislocated, they’re not necessarily bigoted, they’re just subject to the human reality that people change their mind slowly.” At the same time, “there’s this massive gulf in understanding between the coast and these places where jobs have been lost, where economic opportunity is missing, unionisation has been obliterated, and what used to be a good union job is now \$9 an hour down at the Walgreens. That economic anxiety leads to rage.”

For Jim, strengthening democracy requires examining our responsibilities as citizens in addition to systemic tweaks: “We need to put as much emphasis on the obligations of American citizenship as we do on the liberties of American citizenship. Those obligations involve some hard things: being open to opinions different from your own, a natural attitude of self-scepticism and a basic commitment to civility.”

“Remember that there’s no perfectly objective news source, so be a little critical of whatever is flying around on Facebook.” Jim pauses, then chuckles: “it’s hard, but not *that* hard.”

“There are fuels that get thrown on the fire, everything from economic displacement to racism to rapid cultural

change, that explain an awful lot of the energy of the people who paid me a visit on January 6th.” But in the end, “the citizenry will get exactly the government we deserve. If we want to become fire-breathing, social media-driven creatures, uninterested in the facts and compromise, we will have an authoritarian government. We will.”

“I close every town hall meeting by making the point that there are lots of structural things we need to do, but really what’s most important is that we take seriously our obligations as citizens of a great democracy.”

I wonder whether Jim’s solution is actually feasible. After all, many citizens feel voiceless in an age where governments often appear dominated by technocratic experts, corporate insiders, and corrupt bargains. Jim shares some of the scepticism, noting that “when money imbues politics, every time I take a vote, the 30% to 60% of people who disagree with that vote assume that I took that vote because of this lobby or that money. It makes our system toxic. It also creates an incentive for bad behaviour. If I’m on Meet the Press talking in nuanced and boring ways, I can’t put something outrageous on social media that will raise me a million dollars.”

But Jim argues that Congress is unlikely ever to be popular or be seen as clean: “Congress is never going to be very popular, right? Congress is simply a machine to resolve the arguments of 300-plus million people without anybody getting hurt. To do that, it has to settle on compromises, which makes everybody a little unhappy. In a system like ours, everyone a little unhappy is probably a good definition of success, but it isn’t going to lead to 90% approval ratings.”

Indeed, Congress’ approval rating has sat below 25% for most of the last decade.² Many Americans



perceive Congress as outright corrupt. But in our hyper-polarised, constantly online age, people often fall for simple explanations when the reality is more complicated. According to Jim, “usually when people say individuals are corrupt, what they really mean is I don’t like the way they vote, and I’m so sure of myself that the only reason they can be voting the way they are is because they lack integrity. That is not particularly healthy citizenship.”

It often appears that Congress is defined by personal feuds or ideological divides, but Jim argues that the reality is more nuanced. “The belief that what happens inside the Capitol is just a fight between Right and Left is wrong. Another equally valid way of thinking of it is as a huge fight to preserve legacy systems against innovation. Congress naturally resists innovation through ignorance, through

barriers to disruption or by underinvesting in the future.” For instance, “we do a terrible job investing in our youngest citizens. In some ways the fight inside the Capitol is a massive fight to preserve the status quo by both sides. The future doesn’t really have advocates. Children don’t vote. And the past does.”

As Jim runs from a Meet the Press interview about mysterious balloons, I ask him about what skills are needed for his job, about what the ‘art of politics’ means in practice. “Politics is a relationship-driven pursuit. That may be a little counterintuitive. The intuitive notion is that if I want to be a politician, I really need to understand the Middle East, Medicare and Social Security. The reality is that constituents and citizens are fundamentally interested in your values and in you as a person, because most people

² news.gallup.com/poll/1600/congress-public.aspx

‘When young people reject capitalism, they’re rejecting an aspect of capitalism which is that it’s not very good on equity. So what you do is you try to fix the equity problems’



recognise that they’re not going to be able to evaluate you on the 20 different policy topics that they might have an interest in. Instead, they’re going to ask themselves a very basic question, which is, ‘Do I like and trust this person?’”

“The secret weapon in politics is to do something profoundly unnatural, which is to shut up and listen. If I listen and then I find something to validate, now I’ve established a constructive relationship and a dialogue. The person I’ve just talked to is going to go back to his or her group and say ‘I don’t agree with Himes on this stuff, but you know what? He’s a good guy.’ And that’s a massive win.” Jim smiles.

Returning to our discussion about elite institutions, I ask

Jim about what institutions he is especially concerned about. Jim responds, “I worry deeply about academia. Generally, elite academia has missed the bus on the 21st century. It’s one of the few sectors of our economy in which one sees little innovation, no disruption. It is in some instances a hotbed for illiberalism. It has drifted from producing enlightened citizens of a democracy to something more commercial. I worry a lot that elite higher education is becoming decadent in the classic sense of the word. That doesn’t mean it’s not producing spectacular people. It means that it’s lost touch with the sentiments of the average citizen and the broader needs of our democracy.”

I ask Jim about what it means to be educated. Jim replies, “an educated person is conversant in theory, but I would say that nothing is as important as a deep understanding of history. And I would draw a connection to the craziness of my political career. It would have been very difficult navigating these political waters without an understanding of history. As Mark Twain said, history may not repeat itself, but it may rhyme. I’m a big believer in that. It really helps to be able to say, ‘we’ve been here before, and here’s how we got out of it last time.’”

I eye Jim’s bookshelf, which is full of books about history, ranging from *1944: FDR and the Year that Changed History* to *These Truths: A History of the United States*. Drawing on my undergraduate history degree, I ask Jim about how he interprets American history. What is America, both the idea and the practice? What is America’s relationship to democracy?

“The US is the most powerful beacon of democracy in human history, even as it has from time to time ended democracies and installed dictators. You need to be able to hold those two realities in your head at the same time. Right now in Myanmar, somebody is sitting in a house saying,

‘How can we be more like the United States?’”

As evidence of America’s impact on the world, Jim observes that “every manner of appalling regime justifies its activities as advancing democracy. From one point of view, you could look at that as progress. 200 years ago, nobody would feel obligated to cloak their activities under the language of advancing democracy.”

Given the dramatic changes that have occurred over the last century, I ask Jim to look ahead. What, if any, history-defining changes to our politics and economics are left? Jim argues that “there is a basic amorphous consensus that an empowered citizenry operating in a modified free market is the way to optimise political stability and prosperity. People with alternative views are usually refuted by history. I understand that there are a lot of young people who want to reject capitalism, but they better come up with an alternative that doesn’t look like the failed alternatives of the past.”

Indeed, many young people are sceptical about capitalism. A September 2022 Pew Research poll found that among Americans aged 18 to 29, 44% view socialism positively, while just 40% view capitalism positively.³ Jim responds: “When young people reject capitalism, they’re rejecting an aspect of capitalism which is that it’s not very good on equity. So what you do is you try to fix the equity problems, using all the tools we started using in the 1930s: regulation, the welfare state, et cetera. You don’t just say, ‘Capitalism doesn’t work.’” After all, “the expansion of markets of regulated capitalism has lifted billions of people out of poverty in my lifetime.”

Nevertheless, it is not just the left that critiques American capitalism. In books ranging from *Why Liberalism Failed* to *The Virtue of Nationalism*, some right-wing critics have

argued that policymakers have prioritised a globalised, elite-driven capitalism over protecting the common good or promoting human flourishing.

According to Jim, “there’s a parallel to be drawn with the 19-year-old who rejects capitalism, who is basically saying capitalism produces a lot of things that are uncomfortable, to national conservatives who say that the government should promulgate a notion of the good. In a society in which secular materialism is the pervasive ethic, you have a lot of unhappy people. People are atomised, not part of something larger than themselves. Conservatives have a legitimate critique, but they don’t have a particularly good solution.”

Although Jim argues that history vindicates the success of a “modified capitalism,” he contends that there is a lot of unfinished business: “I believe that the United States didn’t become a robust democracy until the civil rights movement of the 1960s, and we’re still not there yet. Millions of Americans don’t have access to a market economy. Millions of Americans don’t participate in their democracy. Just because the era of massive revolutionary paradigm shifts may be over doesn’t mean we don’t have an awful lot of work to do.”

As the clock runs down, I ask Jim about what moments in his life he looks back on most fondly. “I will never forget forming a set of relationships, particularly through sports. To this day, 35 years later, I’m great friends with those guys in the boat.” Jim smiles.

“We all need to be much more intentional about building those friendships and those relationships that at the end of the day, literally at the end of the day, on our deathbeds are probably the thing we remember most.”

³ www.pewresearch.org/politics/2022/09/19/modest-declines-in-positive-views-of-socialism-and-capitalism-in-u-s/

Relentless, Desperate, Delicate

MacKenzie Isaac (Indiana & Green Templeton 2022) takes time to reflect on how her Christian faith sits in the context of Oxford's hallowed history, her scientific work and the discussions she finds herself having with fellow Scholars and others.

Like so many other Oxford residents, I live on a road whose namesake is a saint. Every time I turn into my neighbourhood, I can't help but wonder why St Margaret was so resolute in her beliefs as to achieve sainthood. In a city defined by the concrete – concrete streets, austere concrete buildings and concrete ideas – how did she remain so steadfast in service to an invisible force?

I was born and raised as a devout Christian, and I have carried my faith with me throughout every stage of my academic and professional career. Like a spiritual oxygen supply, my faith flows like a current through my life, organically shaping my worldview and decision-making. However, in an environment like Oxford – a place that I have found to be heavily agnostic – I find that my spiritual grounding is constantly shifting beneath my feet. Rather than my faith carrying me, I find that I am often carrying my faith, wearing it like a niche item of clothing that I feel compelled to justify to others. So far, I have been quite fortunate: conversations about faith and spirituality have never devolved into antagonism, and I would like to think this is because I approach faith dialogues as a collaborative exploration process, rather than some sort of self-serving evangelisation project. But even among open-minded peers committed to generative conversations, I find myself thinking endlessly about why, in a seemingly hallowed place like Oxford, these conversations are considered exceptional rather than common.

My questioning is further coloured by the fact that my studies are in a scientific field: mathematical modelling for global health. I find myself referencing my faith when it may not be deemed entirely appropriate or relevant, and while I have been tempted many times to apologise for it, notions of reasons and rationality are not potent enough to strike my faith from my ways of speaking, writing and knowing. I was deeply unsettled by this for a long time. But one day, my course-assigned advisor, a man who deals in tangibles each day of his career – the human anatomy, pandemic transmission, threats of bioterrorism – did something shockingly revolutionary for an Oxford academic. He listened.



Members of the Rhodes Christian Fellowship Faith Community (wearing traditional 'church' hats while leading a lesson on self-love)

I have come to view my faith... [as] an internal call to action to live a life of relentlessly questioning and decolonising

"You know," I said, "the global health model community functions like an organised religion in lots of ways." "Huh?" he said. "Do you think so, Kenzie? How?" I set it out: "This is how my mind makes sense of it. There is no way to prove that any of the models we generate are correct – that what they say will happen, will truly happen. So why do we keep making models? We make them because they help us make the best predictions we can with the resources we are given, and because the models comprise information and insights provided by trusted institutions, the public has faith in them. They serve as the basis for recommendations on how to behave for our individual and collective good. Religious texts and the philosophical discourses surrounding them essentially do the same thing." For some stretch of time, my advisor was silent. Then, he spoke: "That... could actually be a useful way of seeing everything."

My unsolicited observation about math modelling was, perhaps selfishly, a self-guided exercise in logically explaining my faith to the people in my field. In the end, though, I realised that faith does not need any tethering to logic to provide me with what I most need at Oxford: an abiding sense of joy, a joy attained by surrendering to the countless unknowns. Here, where sundown is before 6pm most of the year, prematurely darkening the street corners – here, where constant exposure to intellectual rigour instigates spiritual warfare within me, shading the corners of my heart – finding beams of joy serves as my cooling salve, my saving grace.

This is not to dismiss the fact that faith and organised religion have dealt more than their share of violence, and for many people, Oxford's sanctified street names (and colleges, and nearly everything else) are painful relics of this violence. Bearing this in mind, I have come to view my faith not as an external identity that I can showcase to some and stow away from others. Rather, it is an internal call to action to live a life of relentlessly questioning and decolonising. Of desperately striving for decency and grasping onto hope. Of delicately holding the stories of my community in my heart and hands as we trudge towards a world of equity and justice across all domains, health and otherwise.

Such is the state of my faith journey as a Rhodes Scholar in Residence. Relentless, desperate, delicate.

Oxford is the most beautiful place I have ever encountered, its architecture made even more gorgeous by the people roaming its buildings. Holding fast to my faith is my way to maintain the same sense of childlike wonderment that spurred so much of my curiosity when I was younger. Now, in a place where I am privileged enough to begin satiating these childhood curiosities through research and advocacy, I cannot help but believe that a larger guiding force is at work, keeping me afloat and propelling me forward in this sea of uncertainty.



Pulling Together to Pull Through

With ordinary life on hold in the pandemic, **Liam Elkind** (New York & Christ Church 2022) took the decision to do something extraordinary. Before he knew it, he was inundated with requests for help and found himself building a mutual aid organisation, Invisible Hands, from the ground up. Here is how it happened.

We didn't know exactly what we were doing. But there we were, doing it.

In 2020, the world shut down and the City That Never Sleeps fell quiet. Parks closed. Stores shuttered. Streets emptied, save the ambulances that raced by night and day. I sat alone in my cramped NYC apartment with nothing but a desire to help and an abundance of time on my frequently-washed hands.

The public health messaging encouraged us to "be a hero and stay home". But sitting around watching TV didn't feel particularly heroic to me. I saw a post from an old friend asking if anyone knew of a volunteer organisation that could deliver food and medicine to those in need. No one did. I reached out and suggested we build one together.

The initial idea was small in scope – we put up some flyers with my personal phone number, encouraging people to call if they needed help or if they wanted to volunteer for our new organisation, which we called 'Invisible Hands'. We figured we could help some families in our neighbourhood get what they needed. 72 hours later, 1,300 people had signed up to volunteer. My phone number, advertised on those flyers, was suddenly being spread throughout New York City, and eventually the country and even internationally. People called from Malaysia, from Kenya, from Australia, asking for deliveries of medicine and groceries. The New York City help hotline encouraged people to call me directly if they needed food. Bernie Sanders sent my phone number to his entire email list and advised people to call me.

I had little idea what to do with any of it. With the attention, with the demand, with the passion of thousands of volunteers wanting to serve their communities in this time of tremendous need. I was only 20 at the time, and felt daunted by the task of serving so many people. Hiring staff, securing insurance, and applying for grants suddenly became quotidian responsibilities as I was sucked away from the college life that had seemed so important just a few weeks earlier. The pace was unrelenting, the learning curve steep.

When it was most difficult, I was buoyed by the enthusiasm of the volunteers. People completing deliveries, running a call centre or dispatch

When it was most difficult, I was buoyed by the enthusiasm of the volunteers



centre, offering mental health counselling to other volunteers, and more. Lawyers, doctors and engineers reached out offering pro bono support. I learned more about the intricacies of non-profits and fiscal sponsorship than I ever thought I would need to know.

I received an email from a woman living in Michigan, whose father had lived in New York. He was in his eighties and had been living alone. When the pandemic hit, she submitted a request on his behalf and one of our volunteers began delivering to him and then talking to him from the other side of the door. They never once saw each other; they wouldn't have recognised each other if they passed on the street. But they became friends. She wrote that he had since passed away, but that this friendship meant the world to their whole family.

Last November, I was honoured to receive the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award from the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky, alongside visionary leaders from around the world, including Dr Anthony Fauci and World Central Kitchen. I met a young non-profit leader from Greece whose organisation works with fishers to recover plastic from oceans. I met a high school student who invented products to detect lead in water, fight cyberbullying and diagnose opioid addictions.

Despite my admiration for these organisations and for all volunteers who stepped up in a time of need, I feel apprehensive about news stories covering Invisible Hands and other movements of service like these. Feel-good stories of communities coming together to survive adversity can be so heartwarming that we forget that many of these adversities should not exist at all. Our social safety net shouldn't depend on a 20-year-old college student remembering to pick up his phone; we deserve governments that answer the call.

Mutual aid organisations have proliferated in the pandemic. Based on a mission of solidarity rather than charity, mutual aid recognises that we don't need to have a lot to give to be able to give a lot. Even stuck at home, Invisible Hands recipients could volunteer remotely to propel the work forward. What's more, many mutual aid organisations fight the oppressive systems that create those needs in the first place, demanding that government do its part to scale community-based solutions.

I encourage anyone interested to look for a mutual aid organisation to volunteer with – they are at the vanguard of the world's fight. If there is a vital need that's not yet being addressed in your community, it's never too late to begin one. Because even when it feels like the world is pulling us apart, it's always worth it to pull together. Indeed, it's only by pulling together that we'll pull through.



The author at the 2022 Muhammed Ali Humanitarian Awards ceremony



Reflecting on Global Justice and Transformation

In early 2023, Atlantic Fellows from 17 countries convened with leading justice experts to reflect on 'Global Justice and Transformation: New Zealand and the Māori Experience'. Here, the **Hon. Karen L. Stevenson** (Maryland & DC & Magdalen 1979), former Trustee of the Rhodes Trust and now Chief Magistrate Judge, US District Court, Central District of California and **Yared Z. Zewde, MD**, Global Atlantic Fellow, Head of the Neurology Department at Addis Ababa University and founder of Alzheimer's Ethiopia, share their thoughts about the convening and the lessons it can teach us all.

The aim of the January 2023 Atlantic Fellows convening was to consider the similarities between the experiences of Indigenous people and other groups who are also unfairly impacted by criminal justice systems across the world. The convening began with what Yared calls “a deep dive into Māori culture. We started by visiting the Ōrākei Marae. There, we broke out into small groups to discuss our views and reflections about injustice and discrimination. I learned that most of the Fellows were victims or witnesses of social and/or justice inequity.” For Yared, it is this personal experience that motivates him and others to tackle inequity. “I think,” he says, “this might explain why many of us were interested in the Atlantic Fellows Program.”

Colonialism's long legacy

For Karen, “It was sobering to confront the legacy of colonialism in modern New Zealand. While Māori make up only 17% of New Zealand’s population, Māori men are 61% of incarcerated men in New Zealand and Māori women are 65% of incarcerated women. In this country with its magnificent natural beauty, the legacy of colonialism has left an indelible stain of racism, discrimination and injustice.” Like Karen, Yared found that “Learning about the strength of the Māori iwi (tribes) and their perseverance as they continue their struggles to restore their land and heritage was both educational and inspirational.”

“What I found impressive in New Zealand is the institutional efforts to directly confront and address the legacy of colonialism,” Karen says. “We were given the chance to meet the Governor-General, Her Excellency The Right Honourable Dame Cindy Kiro, herself of Māori origin, and she asked the Atlantic Fellows to think about how Indigenous values can inform and transform the modern world.”

Both Karen and Yared were especially moved by meeting Global Atlantic Fellow Pania Newton, a Māori woman and recent law graduate who is leading a campaign to protect traditional land at Ihumātao outside Auckland



From left to right: Judge Heemi Taumaunu (Chief District Court Judge, New Zealand); Judge Karen L. Stevenson (Maryland & DC & Magdalen 1979); Judge Ida Malosi (Principal Youth Court Judge, New Zealand); Ndjodi Ndeunyema (Namibia & Linacre 2014)

from real estate development. “Pania spoke to us of her and her whanau’s (family and community) passionate commitment to preserving this beautiful tract of land for her people,” Karen records. “As the afternoon sun waned, we walked down a long road with mountains on either side, then helped weed a patch of garden and walked back to Pania’s family home for a sunset dinner around a wood fire that had burned for more than 900 days of the protest. As the day slipped into serene evening, I felt the sweetness of the land, the power of the community, and the potential for Indigenous values to redefine the social contract through peaceful but deeply committed protest.” Yared agrees that Pania and the social movement she is spearheading are “a symbol of strength” in a community that has had to make so many sacrifices.

Restorative justice

In Wellington, Karen and a small group of Atlantic Fellows were hosted at the Ministry of Justice. “The first thing we



Members of the convening on the way to Bastion Point, site of a 506-day occupation in 1977 that led to the return of the land to Māori control (image courtesy of Rawiri Tapiata)

noticed was that the Ministry of Justice offices did not feel like any government building any of us had ever been in. There are large, open collaborative workspaces, Māori language is widely spoken, and Indigenous values seem to permeate the workplace. Much to our surprise, we were welcomed in traditional Māori fashion and invited to speak with staff members, not about our jobs, but about ourselves. Not the what, but the who. We were privileged to meet with a number of Judges and to learn from them about how Te Ao Marāma (which literally means ‘the world of light’) has become the guiding principle for a more enlightened system of justice for

all people who have contact with the District Court in New Zealand, whether as defendants, family members, witnesses or victims. The model goes beyond procedural fairness and principles of ‘equal justice’ and envisions making the District Court a partner with community organisations to create safe healthier communities.”

Yared and Karen were able to see some of these principles in action. In a four-day host exchange visit, convening participants were given the chance to explore in depth the criminal justice system and how it affects the Māori people and other minorities. “In Tārewa Marae,”

‘I felt the sweetness of the land, the power of the community, and the potential for Indigenous values to redefine the social contract through peaceful but deeply committed protest’



Global Atlantic Fellow Pania Newton speaking to members of the convening (image courtesy of Hineani Roberts)

Yared notes, “we were given the opportunity to attend a community panel of volunteers comprised of village elders, justice experts and police officers. The panel invites young Māori offenders found guilty of minor offences. In the process I witnessed, priority was given to the ‘Who’ – the offender and their family, their social background – rather than the ‘Why’ of what led them to participate in criminal acts. The panellists tried to understand the root cause of any criminal activity and then address that in a constructive way by offering help and guidance.”

Karen reflects on how the community panel differs

from anything she has encountered before. “Unlike any civil proceeding I have ever experienced, the community panel allows the offender to take responsibility for their actions, to acknowledge the consequences of their conduct – not only on their ‘victim’ but also on their own family – and to participate in a dialogue to identify actions the offender needs to take to change their behaviour and make amends for what they have done. The community panel that our group participated in met in a community centre, where, unlike a formal courtroom, the room was filled with numerous articles of Māori craft, photographs and artwork.

The table that we sat around did not place anyone above the individual offender as a ‘judge’. More importantly, there was nothing in the proceeding that was designed to ‘condemn’ the offender. Instead, every part of the more than hour-long discussion was designed to encourage honesty, accountability and change going forward. At the end of the discussion, the ‘offender’ had a plan of action, a timeline to complete specific items, and no criminal offence record. The community panel is a powerful instrument rooted in the Māori tradition of ‘talk, talk, talk’. It is designed to break the cycle of incarceration by avoiding detention for early low-level offences.”

A powerful learning

What will be the fruits of this experience for Karen and Yared? “The convening deeply impacted me,” Karen says, “and continues to reverberate in my work as a federal judge in the United States. What if it were possible to envision a judicial system that both held people accountable for their behaviour in the community and incorporated indigenous values of the Māori culture that promote and celebrate unbroken ties to the community, to the whanau? For me, this was an essential inquiry during the convening. This powerful inquiry stays with me as I go about my judicial responsibilities here in Southern California.”

For Yared, the lessons from the convening have been about the power of integrated social movements. “Indigenous peoples and minorities are disadvantaged by the enduring effects of colonisation and slavery which disproportionately targeted them in the criminal justice system. However, with integrated social movements, policy changes and justice reforms can be achieved to bring restorative justice, solidarity and healing to this intergenerational trauma.” The convening has also allowed



At Tāheke Marae (also known as Opatia), Rotorua, 6 January 2023

him to interact with other Fellows and to collaborate on projects which will investigate the nature of injustice and criminal behaviour in their communities. “Currently,” he notes, “I am partnering with a TEKANO Fellow through an Atlantic Institute awarded Ideate grant to better understand the impact of social inequity on brain health outcome across two cultures – Ethiopia and South Africa. However, after this convening I want to scale up my work to the prison community and study how incarceration affects young offenders’ brain health and the impact it has on society. This might strengthen our belief that criminals are made not born.”

‘The community panel is a powerful instrument rooted in the Māori tradition of ‘talk, talk, talk’. It is designed to break the cycle of incarceration by avoiding detention for early low-level offences.’

75 years of the Rhodes Scholarship in India

2022 marked 75 years since the first Rhodes Scholars were welcomed to Oxford from India. Alumni gathered from across the country and as part of the celebrations, **Misbah Reshi** (India & Somerville 2021) spoke to Scholars about their recollections and experiences of Oxford.

The Rhodes Scholarship has changed enormously since the first Scholars were selected from India. From the paper applications of a pre-internet age, through the support and home comforts available in Oxford, to the programming, community and support for Scholars today.

“I had a very interesting and enlightening time at Oxford. It was one of the most wonderful times of my life,” says Sumit Sen (India & School of Oriental and African Studies 1995).

“During my time,” says Former India National Secretary Professor Vir Chauhan (India & St Catherine’s 1974), “the number of schools applying for the Scholarship increased. Women started applying. I personally went to many university directors to tell them about the Scholarship. There was serious effort to increase diversity. Now we have the first Scholar from Northeast India.”

S.S. Vasan (India & Trinity 1998) notes that “The new generation is thankfully less reverential – I cringed when we were asked to raise a toast to Cecil Rhodes, something that won’t happen now. But we were able to disagree without being disagreeable – just look at the speakers we invited to paint a ‘warts and all’ portrait of the world’s largest democracy. I am less sure that would be possible in today’s acrimonious and polarised world.”

“Important things changed over the years, helping me feel the community exists,” says Mansi Sood (India & Balliol 2015). “The Rhodes Trust started retreats, like the leadership ones organised now. Those exercises we did and times spent together – being vulnerable and discussing things we wouldn’t otherwise discuss – helped bring us closer together.”

Preeti Mann (India & St Cross 1998) recalls, “there is more handholding now. Back when I went, international travel was very formal – no internet and no cell phones. It was a very lonely journey from taking the flight to settling in. This shaped one in a unique fashion. I had a solitary experience that was very good for me – to be with myself processing and exploring – without distraction and noise.”



“Coming from a region where not much is known about the Scholarship, let alone being familiar with the idea of pursuing higher education abroad, the news was very new for my family and many of my relatives. It testifies to the Rhodes Scholarship’s commitments to lifting up capable students from anywhere in the country.”

Akumjung Pongen (India & Lady Margaret Hall 2022) is the first Rhodes Scholar from North East India.



“In addition to the opportunity to study at Oxford and alongside brilliant scholars from around the world, it had a lot of symbolic value. For a lot of people from Kashmir, who have suffered decades of neglect and rights violations, where education is marred by political instability and state excesses, it meant that someone like us can do this.”

Sameer Rashid Bhat (India & Linacre 2018) is the first Rhodes Scholar from Kashmir.

Mahesh Rangarajan (India & Nuffield 1986) recalls the culinary deprivations of 1980s Oxford. “Restaurants in Oxford were awful. We cooked reasonably good vegetarian food and we all ate together, so it was a good experience. The Oxford Majlis society organised some good events, including an India-Pakistan talk amongst students.”

Nearly 30 years later, Namu Ramesh (India & Corpus Christi 2020) describes an atmosphere changed for the better: “The Indian Rhodes in Residence group has been a really nice space, and I love my fellow Indian Scholars – we do social events to maintain community, and I am passionate about making Indian Scholars feel at home and resourced at Oxford.”

Sagarika Ghose (India & St Antony’s 1987) reflects on the power of the Rhodes experience. “Oxford taught me a tremendous amount. I learnt from my brilliant teachers the joy of intellectual adventures; on my own in a new country for the first time, I learnt self-reliance and resilience. I explored different cultures and formed new ideas on identity and belonging, as well as becoming aware of the uniting force of our universal values of inclusion and pluralism. Oxford was an unparalleled experience for me, and Rhodes House and my cohort of Rhodes Scholars a vital part of a transformative time which has shaped my entire life and work ever since.”



“Given that I studied in Nagpur, a small city in India, hoping to study at Oxford was quite a distant dream. The Rhodes Scholarship really made that possible. It was quite a challenge to come here and adjust to life in a new country, as it is for everybody but especially given the additional challenges that I had because of my disability.”

Rahul Bajaj (India & Linacre 2018) is the first Indian Rhodes Scholar with a disability to join our community.



RHODES HOUSE
LANGAR

Celebrating Empathy and Respect

On 22 May 2023, Rhodes House hosted the first ever Sikh Langar at the University of Oxford. Gathering with others to enjoy the warmth and generosity of Sikh culture, **Serene Singh** (Colorado & Christ Church 2019) felt the power of the moment and looks forward to many more to come.





We did it! We made history! I still can't believe it. It feels like a dream come true. Langar, the 500-year-old tradition of the Sikh community kitchen, has now found its place at the world's oldest English-speaking university and at Rhodes House, the home of the oldest international scholarship in existence.



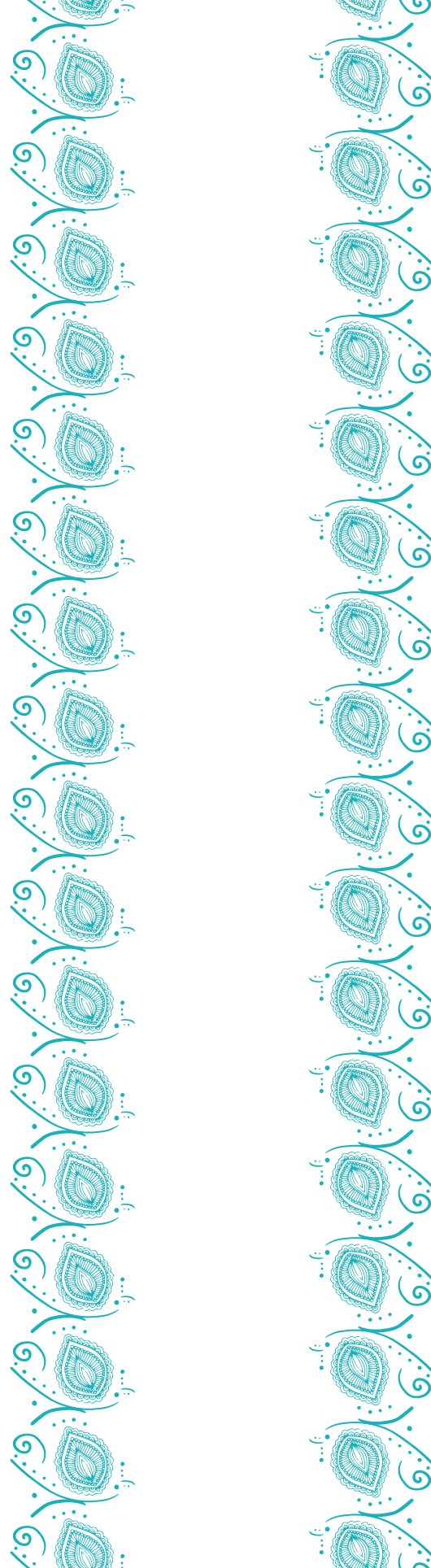
As the attendees arrived, each of them was given a head covering personalised with their names in Punjabi. We wanted everyone to feel connected and embraced by the Sikh culture. As Graduate President of the Oxford Sikh Society, I delivered a presentation on Langar and Sikh values. The air resonated with the soul-stirring melodies of Sikh kirtan music performed on traditional Indian classical instruments like the vaaja (harmonium) and the tabla (drums). And then came the moment we had all been waiting for – we gathered on the floor, everyone equal, sharing a meal together as a symbol of unity and community building.



This was not the first time I had brought Sikh history to Oxford University. Last June, I invited Ravi Singh Khalsa from Khalsa Aid to speak at the Oxford Union, making him the first turbaned Sikh speaker to address the Sikh faith in the Union's 200+ year history. More recently, I brought Sikhi to formal hall dinners by reciting the 'Mool Mantar', a Sikh prayer, instead of the traditional Latin one at my college. Now, my mission is to ensure that the tradition of interfaith celebration lives on even after my time in Oxford. I'm working to empower other students to share their identities and contributions at college formals too.



During my journey at Oxford, I have witnessed the incredible potential of Rhodes Scholars and Oxford students to create a lasting impact on the world. They are future leaders, destined to occupy influential positions as heads of nations, CEOs and leading activists. It was my responsibility to ensure that they leave Oxford with a deep understanding of Sikh values and identity. I wanted to cultivate empathy and respect within their hearts, so that they would recognise the



humanity in every individual. In the face of discrimination, I hoped they would remember the spirit of generosity and humility that our community embodies. I wanted them to amplify Sikh voices, understanding the power of unity and oneness. And in their moments of vulnerability, I wanted them to know that they could always lean on a Sikh for support.

The inaugural 2023 Langar was just the beginning. My vision is for this tradition to continue for generations to come, reaching beyond the University to serve those who are unhoused or in vulnerable situations.

Isatu Bokum (Gambia & Jesus 2022) shared her experience, saying, "My partner and I were absolutely captivated by the joyous atmosphere of the first Langar at Oxford. The vibrant energy, delicious food and strong sense of community created an unforgettable experience for both of us. We felt truly blessed to be a part of this historic occasion, which beautifully showcased the richness of Sikh culture. The warmth and hospitality we experienced will forever hold a special place in our hearts."

The evening commenced with a warm welcome and appreciation from Louise Dearnley, the Deputy Warden for Selection & Scholar Affairs. Scholars from around the world, many experiencing Langar for the first time, came together to embrace this unique experience. Attendees heard from Nishkam SWAT, the free Sikh Langar van, who shared their work in providing meals to the unhoused population in Oxfordshire. Michael-Akolade Ayodeji, the current Oxford SU President, expressed his gratitude to the Sikh community and thanked all the attendees as they departed.

I want to express my deepest gratitude too, to every student who played a part in making this historic event possible. Together, we have written a new chapter in the history of Oxford University. And who knows? Maybe someday, as an old woman, I will be scrolling through my screen and come across a celebration of the '800th Oxford University Langar'. For me, that would truly be a testament to the timeless impact of our historic event.





Professor Sir Keith Burnett in Oxford with Schmidt Science Fellows

Looking Back, Looking Forwards

Professor Sir Keith Burnett FRS is the founding Chair of the Academic Council of Schmidt Science Fellows. Announced in 2017, Schmidt Science Fellows is an initiative of Schmidt Futures, delivered in partnership with the Rhodes Trust. Each Schmidt Science Fellow benefits from personalised mentoring from the experienced scientists on the Academic Council to support them in pursuing ambitious interdisciplinary science. As Schmidt Science Fellows marks its first five years of Fellowship and looks ahead to the future, Sir Keith will move to a new role as Chair-Emeritus, making this the perfect moment to reflect on the Schmidt Science Fellows journey to date.

For the past five years, I have had the pleasure and privilege to be part of a very special global Fellowship which has grown in partnership with the Rhodes Trust. The Schmidt Science Fellows Program supports outstanding early-career scientists from across the world to develop new approaches and solutions to society's challenges.

Beginning with just 14 Fellows, we came together for our first convening (or 'Global Meeting' in Fellowship

terminology!) in Oxford in 2018. Everything about the Fellowship was, and continues to be, experimental. Our Fellows are intrepid in their willingness to undertake scientific pivots, expanding their scientific horizons as they consciously moved into new areas of understanding, and the Program Team aims to match this with our ambitions for the Fellowship.

From 2018, we drew on our contacts to allow our Fellows to learn from the experience of other scientific

pioneers, speaking to them openly about the possibility and challenge of the scientific life. We visited labs and talked to entrepreneurs.

A President of the Royal Society and Nobel laureate Sir Venki Ramakrishnan described the importance of a scientific community, while acknowledging that although "competition is good for science, it is not always good for scientists". This journey took courage, and so it also needed connection and support.

We held our first meeting of the fledgling Academic Council in the sunshine on the lawn behind Rhodes House in a university which has been a home to teaching for almost a millennium. Then as now it was understood that scholars needed community, and our challenge was to offer the essence of community and the best of Oxford's famous tutorial system to Fellows who would for most of their time be embedded in laboratories across the world.

In his great work *The Idea of a University*, John Henry Newman wrote, "The general principles of any study you may learn by books at home; but the detail, the colour, the tone, the air, the life which makes it live in us, you must catch all these from those in whom it lives already." This is at the very core of education – that however beautiful and important our places of study, it is what we learn from those who are willing to share their knowledge and experiences with us that truly makes a community of scholars.

And so, from its very beginnings, the Schmidt Science Fellows Program committed itself to mentoring Fellows as individuals and in groups. Through the period of their Fellowship Placements, through moves across continents and into new disciplines, through a pandemic which kept us apart and then out into their careers as Senior Fellows, we have continued to connect with our Fellows through regular mentoring.

Over the past five years, our core group of mentors, each a senior scientist with a deep commitment to supporting the lives and with of those setting out on this journey, has grown. But its essence would be recognisable to every scholar and teacher from John Henry Newman to Confucius or the Ancient Greeks. And it is certainly familiar to the Rhodes Scholars who have their own story of inspiration and mutual support as part of building a better world.

In time, mentees also become mentors. At our Global Meetings and other opportunities for connection online and in person, our Fellows are encouraged to support one another. And the Schmidt Science


Fellows are also part of a lifelong community. The pioneering early Fellows – intrepid enough to try something new and to lay down the foundations of a new scientific venture – have themselves become trusted sources of advice and encouragement.

The scientific journey is one which challenges and builds on what we already understand, which asks what is possible. It can be frustrating and uncertain,

occasionally dispiriting and without any guarantee of success. At its best though it is a privilege and a joy, an opportunity to do what you love working alongside others who share your desire to understand, to find solutions, to make things better.

Five years is a very short time in the history of science, or even of the Rhodes Trust and University of Oxford. But it is long enough to establish a Fellowship built on the best of their traditions. Those of us who have the privilege of experience support those who will write the next chapters in the story of learning and endeavour. It is an experiment which is already yielding results with the potential to do great good for science and scientists.

It is a privilege and a joy, an opportunity to do what you love working alongside others who share your desire to understand, to find solutions, to make things better



Lessons Along Long and Winding Rhodes

Over four decades, **Nick Allard** (New York & Merton 1974) has been asking Rhodes classmates and Scholars from other classes to share their stories. The results offer a treasury of advice about what truly matters in life. Here, Nick sets out some of the experiences, hopes and concerns that the Rhodes community have shared along the way.

Previous page: Tom Barron (Colorado & Balliol 1974) on Port Meadow in 1975 (looking towards the Trout Inn)
Below: The Class of 1974



Our Rhodes classmates from all points of the compass met a half century ago. Now in my fourth decade assembling and sharing their stories in *The American Oxonian*, I am still learning new things about them and from them. So can you. Unexpectedly, while deconstructing my voluminous class letters and reworking them thematically into a forthcoming book of excerpts drawn from their own words, I've discovered relevant comparisons and surprising similarities with other very different classes. This unique long-term chronicle about one cohort of Rhodes Scholars also offers a lens for looking back and ahead at the people, purposes and world the Rhodes Trust serves.

These perspectives seem corroborated by a massive 84-year Harvard study of happiness recently published in *The Good Life*. According to co-author Dr Robert Waldinger, the study initially focused on white men. Eventually women, people of colour and those of all backgrounds became involved – not unlike the trajectory of the Rhodes Scholarships from our 1974 days until today. Profound lessons emerged about what makes for a happy good life across the different generations. Dr Waldinger found

that those who are happiest, healthiest and most active in their eighties are those who maintain social relationships throughout their lives and remain engaged with others. He found that even small actions such as the occasional phone call or sending cards and letters yield powerful cumulative benefits for one's wellbeing.

Who knew that our annual Rhodes class letters were Zen? Without consciously trying to be therapeutic or universally relevant, our letters became a self-administered tonic, a rich record of history, and a provocative roadmap for others across generations and circumstances past, present and yet to come.

Our collective Class of 1974 memoir, to be published as *The Long and Winding Rhodes*, describes experiences, hopes and concerns that should resonate across every era of the Rhodes community. Even a tiny sampling reveals undeniably extraordinary, and yet, in many ways, also profoundly ordinary good people. We share some of their thoughts here. As one person noted in their contribution, "The most important resolution this year is to make as much time as possible for friends." And so should it be every year.

“ [T]he infamous 1972 Olympic basketball game – in which I played – against the Soviet Union in the Munich Olympics, as well as the attack on the Olympic village – was a terrible event that, in retrospect, seems the start of the modern terrorism that has so marked our lives. ”

“ The most valuable part of what Oxford gives us is intangible ... It is a gift of time. ... During my years at Oxford, by far the most important educational experiences came outside academia. Those experiences fell into three basic categories: Unforgettable people... Extraordinary conversations... Remarkable places... ”

“ It's been an intriguing year with a post-stroke mind. I am thrilled that my neurologist told me, from the moment of my consciousness on waking from the stroke: 'You are really, really, really, really, really, really, really lucky to be alive.' Yes, seven 'really's. I've been told that I demonstrate 'how the right hemisphere is over-rated'; ...losing a big chunk ... had little consequence other than causing peripheral blindness (no driving, buddy) and slapping down my lifelong hyperactive energies to a more human level. My optimism and spirit are still thriving. ”



Merton first eight bump, Eights Week 1974. The crew included Scholars Nick Allard (New York and Merton 1974), Sandy MacIver (New Brunswick & Merton 1974) and Pete Kyle (Texas & Merton 1974) (image courtesy of David Hamer (Ontario & Merton 1974))



Tom Barron (Colorado & Balliol 1974) (left) with Mac Hunter (Maine & St Catherine's 1974) on Ben Nevis in 1975



Eights Week 1974: the author (left), then Captain of Boats, and Sandy Maclver (New Brunswick & Merton 1974), along with trusty mascot Aloysius (image courtesy of David Hamer (Ontario & Merton 1974))



After Schools: the author with Bill Sims (Arizona & St Edmund Hall 1974) and Tom McMillen (Maryland & University 1974) in Teddy Hall

“I’m looking now at the front door of my family home in New Orleans, on which we have preserved the ‘FEMA cross’ painted after Hurricane Katrina. It tells which National Guard unit got there first (California’s 5th) and how many dead were found inside (zero)...The freckle-faced boy who used to dash in and out of that door has become a grey-haired grownup, but I still look upon that door as the portal to all my experiences. The FEMA cross reminds me of our vulnerabilities and our need for community.”

“I lost a close friend of 50 years to early onset Alzheimer’s. He did okay for a couple of years, then declined very rapidly. Made me half-weepy, half-happy. He wouldn’t have wanted to live into oblivion. It got me thinking that I should let those I love know it before I get the same thing and forget who they are.”

“Being in South Africa is challenging. There are many stresses: violence, crime, huge discrepancies in the distribution of resources and a mind-boggling number of people infected with the AIDS virus. On the other hand, the land is stunningly beautiful, here is great opportunity for developing initiative and courage, and there is surprising and heart-warming goodwill from the black community considering the past brutality of Apartheid.”

“It is one of life’s great moments when you pick up and hug your child’s baby for the first time. Something very deep and primitive is stirred in one’s soul, and I found myself reminded again about the wonderful miracle of life.”

“May we affirm our support for one another and remember that there is so much more to life than the next promotion, the next major client, the next successful investment.”

“I have learned since the ’70s that laughing at myself is a good thing.”

“...I often imagine what I would do if I could do it all over again... But not only can none of us do it over again, I wouldn’t want to.”

Nick Allard’s numerous volunteer activities as a Rhodes Alumnus have included serving as the 1974 Class Secretary for many years. Stories drawn from the nearly 1000 pages of his annual class letters published in *The American Oxonian* are forthcoming in a book titled *The Long and Winding Rhodes*. He is currently serving as the Founding Dean of the Jacksonville University College of Law in Florida. He has previously served as the President and Dean of Brooklyn Law School after a career in government service and as a senior partner in some of the world’s most respected law firms.

The George Parkin Distinguished Service Awards

The Rhodes Trust recognises extraordinary volunteer service to the Rhodes Trust or its affiliated Alumni associations each year through the George Parkin Service Awards, established in 2015. We are delighted to celebrate our latest winners.

In 1902, George Parkin was invited by the founding Trustees to undertake the task of translating the idea of the Rhodes Scholarships into a working system, as the Trust's first Organising Secretary. The Rhodes Scholarships would not be what they are today without his efforts. Over the years, the Rhodes community has benefitted greatly from the volunteer service of its members over many years.

To honour this service, a small number of Scholar and non-Scholar members of the Rhodes community will be awarded the George Parkin Distinguished Service Award each year. The awards recognise members of the broader Rhodes community (not including currently serving Trustees, National Secretaries, Wardens, Rhodes House staff and Scholars in Residence) who have done one or more of the following:

- provided strong and positive leadership and service within Alumni associations over a sustained period of time or in a highly impactful way;
- provided extraordinary support to current Scholars or Alumni;
- given sustained and dedicated volunteer service without formal recognition;
- devised and implemented an impactful idea or innovation;
- significantly increased public awareness of and/or the standing of the Scholarships;
- strongly guided the Trust's efforts in expanding Scholarships to new jurisdictions, adding Scholarships to existing jurisdictions, or reinstating suspended Scholarships.

If you would like to submit a nomination for the next round of the awards, please email the Director of Communications, Babette Littlemore (babette.littlemore@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk), including the name of the person you are nominating, and up to a maximum of 250 words about why they deserve to win this award.

WE CONGRATULATE THIS YEAR'S WINNERS:



OWEN CARLSTRAND

Owen chairs the Building Control Group and serves on the Trust's Building Committee as a non-Trustee member. He has played a vital leadership role throughout the Big Build, from design, planning and procurement through construction. Drawing on his years of experience with construction projects, as well as his enthusiasm for heritage architecture, he has stepped up in so many ways, including mediating when needed and offering wise counsel in the face of supply chain challenges.



DR VIRANDER SINGH CHAUHAN (India & St Catherine's 1974)

Vir served as the National Secretary for India for almost 20 consecutive years and participated in the selection process for over four decades. His tireless outreach efforts ensured the increased diversity of the Scholarships. The integrity and strength of the Indian selection process owe him much. After retiring as National Secretary, he continues his active involvement in the Rhodes Community in India, serving as the first Chairman of the Rhodes Advisory Committee and on Selection Committees.



PROFESSOR MARNIE HUGHES-WARRINGTON (Tasmania & Merton 1992)

As National Secretary for Australia, Marnie oversaw governance reforms and diversified the candidate pool. She ensured much stronger representation of women and younger Scholars on the Australian Secretariat, also establishing a national advisors' network and appointing a National Advisor for Diversity with a particular (but not sole) focus on First Nations Australians. Marnie has served on the Scholarship Committee since its inception and also sat on its sub-committee tasked with 'Reframing the Personal Statement'.



DR LISA KLEIN (South Africa-at-Large & St Antony's 1994)

Lisa has served the Rhodes Scholarship in Southern Africa for many years, first as a selector, then as Deputy General Secretary working with Edwin Cameron and, since 2015, as President of the Alumni association SAARS. More recently, she served on the Trust's Global Alumni Advisory Group and is now its inaugural Co-Chair. In South Africa, she has also been involved nation-building activities, including the CEO Circle founded by Adrian Gore and Business Unity South Africa.



RALPH SMITH (Alabama & Corpus Christi 1973)

For many years, Ralph Smith has been a dedicated friend of the Rhodes Scholarship. He has served on Selection Committees, mentored younger Scholars, and was Class Leader for the Class of 1973 from 2013 to 2020. As a member of the Executive Committee of AARS and President of AARS from 2017 to 2020, he championed an increasingly diverse pool of AARS leaders. Ralph has built a strong, supportive relationship between AARS and the Trust.

Miss MacDonald of Sleat

Clif Cleaveland (South Carolina & St John's 1958) recalls Miss MacDonald of Sleat, a formidable figure who opened doors for many Scholars. It all started with an invitation to tea...

On the evening before my departure to England with my Rhodes classmates of 1958, I had dinner with a friend who had preceded me at Oxford by four years. High on the list of tips that he gave me was the need to contact a Miss MacDonald of Sleat upon arriving in London. He described her as presiding over an array of benefits to Rhodes Scholars. He gave me her address.

Soon after settling into my college, I wrote to Miss MacDonald and was invited to tea later in the month. Four of us appeared at her flat near Sloane Square. An associate ushered us into a drawing room where Miss MacDonald presided. A formal lady, likely in her mid-70s, she wore a floor-length black dress, adorned with elaborate lace at cuffs and collar, and stood with the aid of a cane. After introductions, an elaborate tea was served – the first such tea that I would enjoy in this new land. As we relaxed, Miss MacDonald outlined a variety of services which she could arrange. These included visits during vacations with host families across the United Kingdom, tickets to concerts and special events, and tea whenever we were in London.

As summer vacation 1959 approached, Wayne Hubble (British Columbia & St John's 1958) and I contacted Miss MacDonald and arranged to spend a week in June with a host family in North Devon. We travelled by train to Great Torrington, a market town, where our hosts welcomed us and drove us to their estate, a large manor set in rolling farmland. We learned that the husband was Lord High Sheriff for the County. A cook and gardener served the estate.

Over dinner, our help was enlisted in harvesting a bumper crop of raspberries and strawberries. The routine was set on the following morning. Every day, after an early breakfast, we would join our hosts, the gardener and his son in the fields where we would pick berries for four to five hours, filling large buckets. We could eat as many berries as we chose; although after a morning of such intake, I had had my fill of berries for the week. The contrast with the academic grind at Oxford was welcome. A lorry collected each day's harvest.

After lunch and a nap, we were driven by our hostess in an aged Bentley to various sites along the coasts of Devon and Cornwall. We enjoyed beautiful weather throughout our stay. Clovelly village on the coast of Devon challenged us with the steepest cobblestoned main street

**We felt welcome
at every venue.
Conversations
were engaging**



that I have ever encountered. Dinner followed either at the manor house or in the homes of neighbours. Dinners were formal – blazers and ties – and elaborate. Bridge sometimes followed dinner. We felt welcome at every venue. Conversations were engaging. On our final day, our hosts drove us to Wimbledon where we enjoyed an afternoon of the legendary tennis tournament from box seats.

The lingering question for me was whether the crop of berries could have been harvested without the assistance of Wayne and me, and perhaps other guests who may have followed us.

Other Scholars enjoyed hosted vacations in all seasons in a variety of settings in Scotland, England and Wales. The most daunting, reported by two friends, was a wintertime week in a draughty castle in Scotland where the chief challenge was staying warm.

Later in the summer, while I took an anatomy class at Charing Cross Medical School, Miss MacDonald offered seats to the BBC Proms at Royal Albert Hall. Four of us sat in the Royal Box for a classical concert by a visiting orchestra. I returned later in the summer for a second concert, each featuring ensembles and programmes that were new to me. I do not know how many other Scholars took advantage of these remarkable concerts.

As the summer of 1959 wound down, I was invited to a dinner in the Houses of Parliament, hosted by a distinguished Labour MP. I was the sole American in a small group of Canadian and South African Scholars. I recall a discussion of political issues that included criticism of heavy-handedness in US foreign policy. Coffee and port were followed by a torchlight tour of Westminster Hall by the MP. Upon learning that I was American, he apologised to me for remarks that he had made that were critical of US foreign policy. He had thought that all of his guests were from the Commonwealth.

Two more afternoon teas with Miss MacDonald of Sleat followed during Michaelmas Term of 1959. As academic work piled up and examinations loomed, I lost touch with the amazingly hospitable Miss MacDonald. I do not know how her programme was launched or financed. As constituted, it provided unique hospitality to a contingent of Rhodes Scholars in the 1950s and early 1960s.

Our Character, Service and Leadership Programme

The Rhodes Character, Service and Leadership Programme (CSLP) grew out of discussions a decade ago to reimagine the Rhodes Scholarship experience in its second century. Here, **Khansa Maria** (Pakistan & Harris Manchester 2021) tells us how the CSLP was created and how it has developed to foster connections and transformative experiences.

Rhodes House celebrated its 110th anniversary in 2013, sparking discussions about how to reimagine the Scholarship project to meet the needs of the 21st century. Despite Rhodes House's efforts to become more inclusive through activism and EDI work, there was still a need to "re-imagine, re-think, and revamp" the Scholar experience.

The House not only opened its doors to Scholars through community engagement but also introduced the Character, Service and Leadership Programme (CSLP), conceived by Warden Charles Conn (Massachusetts & Balliol 1983) to enrich the Scholar experience. The programme's four criteria – intellect, character, leadership and commitment to service – played a significant role in the selection process, but they failed to meaningfully shape Scholars' experiences at Oxford. These criteria needed to be reimaged to align with the demands and environment of the 21st century.

Warden Conn drew inspiration from his time as a Crown Fellow at the Aspen Institute and aimed to replicate the experience of reflecting and debating profound questions. While he brought this idea to Rhodes House, he emphasised that a team effort was crucial in building the programme. The team included Michael Lamb (Tennessee & Trinity 2004), JanaLee Cherneski (Saskatchewan & Wolfson 2004), Ian Desai (Illinois & Merton 2005) and Max Harris (New Zealand & Balliol 2012).

The programme's early founders, with their academic positions and identities, influenced its direction. However, they were open to feedback and consistently evolved and expanded the programme each year. For instance, early iterations of the programme were heavily focused on reading, but concerns arose regarding the need for facilitators from diverse backgrounds and recent years to establish stronger connections with Scholars who shared similar experiences. Rhodes House staff made efforts to incorporate this feedback and cater to Scholars' needs.

According to participating Scholars, the CSLP centres on values including reflection, empathy, exploring difficult questions, creating space and critical engagement. Scholars are introduced to the programme



Scholars expressed gratitude for the transformative experiences the retreats provided



during Welcome Week, followed by a CSLP orientation dinner. The programme includes two retreats: 'No One Way To Lead' in March of the Scholars' first year, and 'Building A Good Life' in December of their second year. These retreats offer opportunities for critical readings, pod-based small discussion sessions, plenary sessions and personal reflection. The retreats also feature a range of activities, from artistic movement-based workshops to Scholar-led game nights and discussion circles. Scholars expressed gratitude for the transformative experiences the retreats provided, forcing them to confront buried thoughts and reflect on their life trajectories. The retreats also fostered connections among Scholars, as they cherished memories of cultural performances and the chance to meet amazing people. However, Scholars also highlighted areas that required improvement, such as accessibility and moderator diversity, and expressed their expectations that the Trust would address these issues.

The CSLP underwent four phases. The initial phase involved establishing the programme within the first two years. The second phase, around 2017, marked a period when Rhodes

House seemed to have developed a well-refined formula for the retreats. However, the pandemic disrupted the programme, transitioning the retreats to an online format. While this was challenging in terms of establishing connections, Scholars found ways to connect through virtual pod sessions and cultural nights. The fourth phase occurred when pandemic restrictions eased, allowing Scholars to travel to different hotels for the retreats. Scholars thoroughly enjoyed this experience, appreciating the opportunity to break away from the 'Oxford bubble' with their entire class. With the completion of the Big Build project, it is intriguing to consider how the retreat will be reconfigured for the revamped Rhodes House.

Throughout this process, collecting feedback from Scholars and facilitating discussions to engage with tough questions has always been crucial. The retreat offers an opportunity for Scholars to learn, examine questions about leadership and service, reflect on their journey thus far and contemplate their future path in life. It serves as a platform for Scholars to delve into profound discussions and explore the depths of their personal growth and aspirations.

HELP AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CAN AS YOU CAN

Like so many across the world **Mary Meancy** (Texas & Merton 1993) saw the invasion of Ukraine on television and could hardly believe what she was watching. She felt she needed to do something. So she invited Ukrainian families into her home in Northern France, an act which has snowballed into a community campaign to help hundreds fleeing war.

It started with something very simple, very humble. I asked my husband what he thought about the idea of hosting a few Ukrainian refugees. His response was immediate and generous: “Of course, dear”. I then talked to our children and asked if they were up for it. They would need to share their toys, their bikes, their playground, their home, their mother. Without hesitation, they all enthusiastically said, “Yes”.

A year later, our little grassroots effort in a little village in northern France is an organisation – *Solidarité Ukraine* – and our community has hosted over 500 Ukrainians with more than 100,000 nights and 300,000 meals. Thanks to Imperial College Business School, we codified our playbook and thanks to the Ukrainian consul and Ukrainian embassy we’ve shared that playbook with community organisers

across Europe, helping tens of thousands more. Today, we are working on getting adults into good jobs... We’re about halfway there.

We are fundraising – five world-class swimmers will swim across the English Channel to raise money for us, and we are hoping to break a world-record. Our window is the second week of June. It’s the toughest swim on earth, but we have an amazing team including an Olympic silver medal winner, a world champion, a world record-holder and two national champions.

And there have been many moments of pride and joy, laughter and love. For the first two months after she arrived, Bogdana, a beautiful six-year-old girl, woke up every night screaming. It took three months before I saw her first smile. And four months before

“It started with a family effort which quickly snowballed”

I got a first hug. Bogdana now goes to a French school and is getting straight As. She has friends and loves to draw. She still has the occasional nightmare, but there are now a lot more smiles than screams.

Olga, an accountant, just got a job – a *great* job – in France at the most prestigious accounting firm in our area. And Ivan – a handicapped four-year-old boy who arrived crawling on all fours – now walks. He *walks*.

It started with a family effort which quickly snowballed as our barn filled with supplies from generous neighbours and friends and I sent frustrated emails to local officials asking when the first arrivals from Ukraine were due.

As news spread that something was afoot, I received an email asking me to a meeting with a set of local mayors and officials. I spoke of the extraordinary generosity of our community; of our leadership on many critical issues in the past and the opportunity for us to lead again.

A few minutes into my spiel, one of the mayors said, “I’ve just received a text. We have a family of 14 Ukrainians arriving; they don’t want to be separated, what do we do?” There was silence. Complete silence...

and then I broke the silence. “I’ll take them.” Everyone turned and looked at me; “You can take all of them?” “Give me ten minutes to get back to the farm.” And so we started by welcoming that first family... Galina, the grandmother, with her daughter and granddaughter and 11 orphans.

As the Ukrainians arrived, so too did French, British and American people of all ages and backgrounds and all walks of life – all colliding together with a common purpose: to show solidarity for people whose lives and livelihoods had been turned upside down. The kindest, most generous, most giving people I have ever met. But there were many challenges: seemingly overnight, I found myself running an NGO. I had no authority; no title; no official role; no formal position; no real power of any kind.

So how did we succeed? Our vision was incredibly

simple and unbelievably powerful: we wanted to help as many people as we could. Over and over, I told stories of the women and children; I put names and human faces on the unfolding tragedy.

The second factor was leading by example. At one point, I had 29 Ukrainians, two Polish bus drivers, a Polish translator and a handful of volunteers living in our home and farm.

The third success factor was building a great team. That team changed over time, as some volunteers became sick or exhausted, and others stepped in and stepped up.

And that leads me to the fourth success factor – gratitude and celebrating heroes. Over the last six months, I have said “Thank you” to more people more frequently than in the rest of my life combined.

The fifth factor: persistence, resilience, grit. This was hardest of all. Because it was tough, without question the toughest thing I have ever done.

The sixth success factor was a learning mindset coupled with an agile way of working. From the beginning, we were operating in conditions of *extreme* uncertainty, and that meant

that we had to be constantly learning, experimenting and innovating.

I remember telling everyone *not* to be discouraged when they found that every *solution* led to a new set of *problems*. Because it meant that we were making progress. I was thrilled when we found work for the first Ukrainians... only to discover their jobs started at 7am before the buses started running, and most didn’t know how to drive a car. Which meant starting not just an employment agency but a driving school.

This has certainly changed my life. I’ve learned; I’ve grown; I’ve lost ten pounds; but much more importantly I’ve gained in compassion and generosity. And I’ve gained hundreds – literally hundreds – of new French, Ukrainian, and Polish friends. And while there were tragedies, there

“There were many challenges: seemingly overnight, I found myself running an NGO”



The author and her husband with just some of their Ukrainian visitors

were also triumphs: many moments of joy, pride, laughter and love.

What messages would I share? Never underestimate the power of an individual with skill and will. Gandhi was right: you *can* change the world. But you need skills in strategy and organisation; in how to engage and influence ... and in how to lead.

I want to urge you to be bold. Really bold. Because Michelangelo was right: the challenge for most of us is not that we aim too high and miss our targets, but that we aim too low and hit them. Aim high. Be bold. Change this beautiful, broken world.

Changing the World for 120 Years

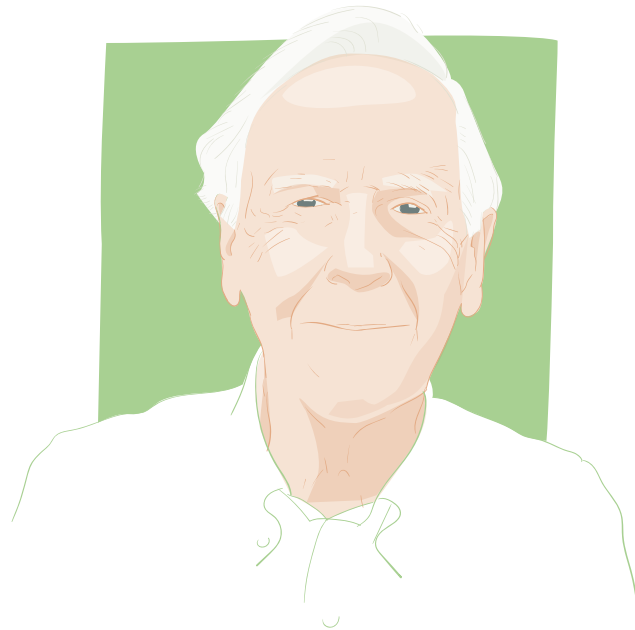
Earlier this year, we launched an interactive infographic highlighting some of the big ideas that Rhodes Scholars have helped advance over the last 120 years. Here we highlight recent additions nominated by the Rhodes community.



JAMAICAN DANCE

Rex Nettleford (Jamaica & Oriel 1957)
Nominated by Jelani Munroe (Jamaica & Lincoln 2018)

Rex Nettleford was a Jamaican scholar, dancer, choreographer and social activist who made significant contributions to the fields of culture and education in the Caribbean. He co-founded the National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica which has since become one of the country's leading cultural institutions. Nettleford was also Professor of Cultural Studies and a Vice Chancellor Emeritus at the University of the West Indies, where he played a key role in expanding access to higher education in the region. He received numerous awards for his work, including the Order of Merit, Jamaica's third highest honour.



LINEAR ALGEBRA

Gilbert Strang (Massachusetts & Balliol 1955)
Nominated by Muhammad Hamza Waseem (Pakistan & Magdalen 2019)

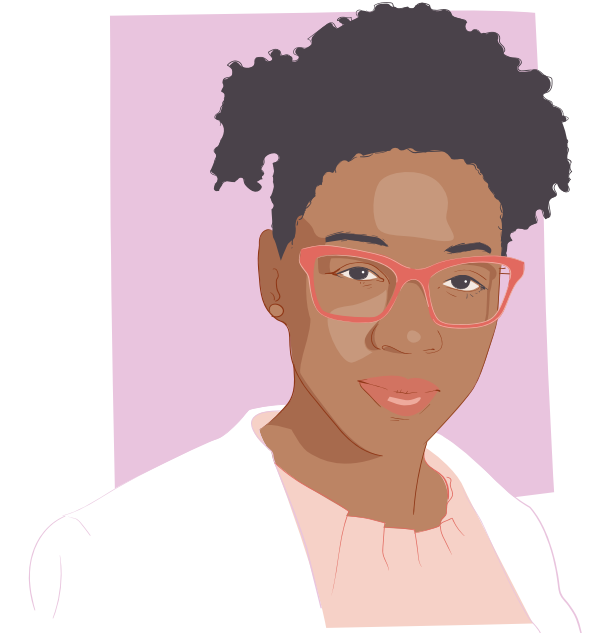
Gilbert Strang is an American mathematician who has made significant contributions to the field of linear algebra and its applications in engineering, physics and computer science. He has authored several influential textbooks on the subject, including *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*, which has been translated into multiple languages and is widely used in universities around the world. Strang has also received numerous awards and honours for his contributions to mathematics education and research, including the Leroy P. Steele Prize for Lifetime Achievement from the American Mathematical Society.



RESISTANCE TO THE NAZI REGIME

Adam von Trott zu Solz (Germany & Balliol 1931)
Nominated by Ralph Osterwoldt (British Columbia & St Anne's 1980)

Adam von Trott zu Solz was a German lawyer, diplomat and resistance fighter who opposed the Nazi regime during World War II. He was involved in the Kreisau Circle, a group of intellectuals and activists who aimed to create a post-Nazi Germany based on democratic and humanitarian principles. Trott was instrumental in planning and attempting to execute a coup against Hitler in 1944, known as the 20 July Plot, which ultimately failed. He was arrested, tried and executed by the Nazi regime for his role in the resistance.



ALGORITHMIC JUSTICE

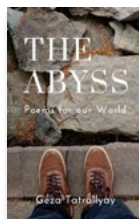
Joy Buolamwini (Tennessee & Jesus 2013)

Joy Buolamwini is a computer scientist, AI researcher and founder of the Algorithmic Justice League. Her research has exposed the racial and gender biases in facial recognition technology, leading to policy changes by major tech companies and governments. Buolamwini has also co-authored legislation to ban the use of facial recognition by law enforcement. Her TED Talk on algorithmic bias has more than one million views and she has received numerous awards for her work in promoting ethical AI and addressing algorithmic bias, including being named one of the Forbes 30 Under 30 in Enterprise Technology.

Find the infographic at www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/impact-legacy/changing-the-world-for-120-years and nominate other prominent Scholars and ideas by contacting connect@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk

The Rhodes Virtual Bookshelf

A selection of books written or edited by Rhodes Scholars



The Abyss: Poems for our World (Deux Voiliers, 2022) by Geza Tatrallyay (Ontario & St Catherine's 1972).

The Abyss: Poems for our World poignantly sets out that we – human beings – are the greatest threat to life and this world: not only because of our social and political divisions, but also because of our continuing incapacity to come to terms with the need to change our ways and to adopt behaviours that are less destructive to mother earth, other species of life and indeed, ourselves.



Dubious Breath (Finishing Line Press, 2022) by Jennifer Davis Michael (Alabama & Christ Church 1989).

Jennifer Davis Michael is a professor of English at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, specialising in British Romanticism. These poems are framed by the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic. While not all were written during that time, they share a concern with the fragility of the earth and our bodies on the earth, as well as the webs we weave through virtual means of connection.



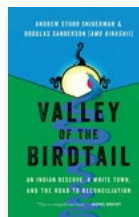
Terra Nova (Pegasus Books, 2022) by Henriette Lazaridis (Vermont & St Hugh's 1982).

A haunting story of love, art and betrayal, set against the heart-pounding backdrop of Antarctic exploration – from the *Boston Globe*-bestselling author of *The Clover House*. The year is 1910, and two Antarctic explorers, Watts and Heywood, are racing to the South Pole. Back in London, Viola, a photo-journalist, harbours love for them both.



Second Coming (Liberty Books, 2022) by Athar Tahir (Pakistan & Oriel 1974).

A tour de force, *Second Coming*, first novel by the author explores the sacred and the profane in the life of the protagonist. It is a story studded with comic moments of self-delusion, folly and the ridiculous. Here, viewed from telling, faceted perspectives, is the human condition.



Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation (Harper Collins, 2022) co-written by Andrew Stobo Sniderman (Québec & Exeter 2008).

Divided by a beautiful valley and 150 years of racism, the town of Rosburn and the Waywayseecappo Indian reserve have been neighbours nearly as long as Canada has been a country. Their story reflects much of what has gone wrong in relations between Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians. It also offers, in the end, an uncommon measure of hope.



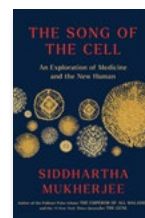
Strange Bewildering Time: Istanbul to Kathmandu in the Last Year of the Hippie Trail (House of Anansi Press, 2023) by Mark Abley (Saskatchewan & St John's 1975).

In the spring of 1978, at the age of 22, Mark Abley put aside his studies at Oxford and set off with a friend on a three-month trek across the celebrated Hippie Trail – a sprawling route between Europe and South Asia, peppered with Western bohemians and vagabonds. Drawing from the tattered notebooks he filled as a youthful wanderer, Abley brings his kaleidoscope of experiences back to life with vivid detail.



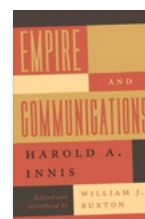
The Hyacinth Girl (Virago, 2022) by Lyndall Gordon (Rhodes Visiting Fellow & St Hilda's 1973).

Among the greatest of poets, T.S. Eliot protected his privacy while publicly associated with three women: two wives and a church-going companion. This presentation concealed a lifelong love for an American: Emily Hale, a drama teacher to whom he wrote (and later suppressed) over a thousand letters. Drawing on the dramatic new material of the only recently unsealed 1,131 letters Eliot wrote to Hale, leading biographer Lyndall Gordon reveals a hidden Eliot.



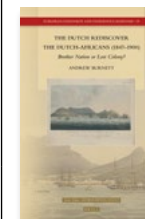
The Song of the Cell (Scribner, 2022) by Siddhartha Mukherjee (India & Magdalen 1993).

From the prize-winning author of *The Emperor of All Maladies*, *The Song of the Cell* tells the vivid, thrilling and suspenseful story of the fundamental unit of life. Both panoramic and intimate, this is Siddhartha Mukherjee's most spectacular book yet.



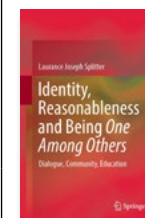
Empire and Communications (University of Toronto Press, 2022) edited by William Buxton (Alberta & St John's 1971).

In this new edition of Harold A. Innis's 1950 *Empire and Communications*, William J. Buxton pays close attention to handwritten glosses that Innis added to a copy of the original edition and the revisions undertaken by his widow, Mary Q. Innis. This edition makes *Empire and Communications* more accessible and contributes to the broad efforts to shape Innis's legacy.



The Dutch Rediscover the Dutch-Africans (1847–1900) (Brill, 2022) by Andrew Burnett (Cape Province & University 1970).

Were the Dutch-Africans in southern Africa a brother nation to the Dutch or did they simply represent a lost colony? Connecting primary sources in Dutch and Afrikaans, this work tells the story of the Dutch *stamverwantschap* (kinship) movement between 1847 and 1900. The white Dutch-Africans were imagined to be the bridgehead to a broader Dutch identity – a 'second Netherlands' in the south.



Identity, Reasonableness and Being One Among Others (Springer Nature Singapore, 2023) by Laurance Splitter (Victoria & Magdalen 1973).

This book brings the tools and ideas of Anglo-American analytic philosophy to bear on how we think about issues of contemporary significance, in a way that is accessible to a broad audience. While acknowledging empirical findings within the social sciences, it takes on the prescriptive task of imagining a better world, in which being citizens in a democracy means actively engaging with others.

For the complete virtual bookshelf, head to www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/impact/book-listing-page/

Networks of Connection

Right now, there are over five billion internet users worldwide. And one of their favourite activities is using social media. In fact, the average user spends two and a half hours on social media platforms every day. Communications Manager **Susanna Griffiths** outlines a decade of learning about the power of social media at the Trust.

On 24 May 1844, American inventor Samuel Morse famously opened the Baltimore–Washington telegraph line with the words, “What hath God wrought?” and communications technology was never the same again. 160 years on, Harvard sophomore Mark Zuckerberg launched Facebook, initially as a directory for students. Within 24 hours, over a thousand people had registered – growing to a million within the year. And by 2012, the platform had over a billion users.

This was the same year that we first tweeted “Good morning from Rhodes House. Stay in touch, there will be more from us very soon!” Another 10,000 tweets later we are still going strong! So, what role does social media play at the Trust? How has it changed in the past decade, and how might we use it in the future to help Scholars continue to share news and forge connections?

Reflecting on our early days of using social media it is amazing to see how text-based our posts were, given how far social media has since evolved to prioritise eye-catching visuals and short, quirky videos. We discovered very quickly that sharing people’s own unique and individual stories had the most profound effect on who then saw them and responded.

We’ve learned a lot along the way. Despite poring over best practice, analytics and data, you can still experience the disappointment of watching a meticulously planned idea fall flat. And conversely, a serendipitous snap or well-timed question can catch people’s imagination and prompt a flood of comments and likes. Gradually, intuition starts to tell you what makes for good content, but social media platforms will never allow you to rest on your laurels for long.

Ten years on, our activity on social media continues to grow, and we now have a network of 92,000 followers

– keen to learn about, celebrate and discuss the global impact of the Rhodes community and our partnership programmes. Social media is central to making the Rhodes Scholarships and our partnership programmes better known and more accessible to people around the world, communicating the breadth and depth of our impact and cementing our reputation as one of the world’s leading scholarships.

Initially we saw social media as a way to engage with and update Alumni on what was happening in the Rhodes community, but we have since seen the power of social media as a way to help us achieve very specific outreach goals. Today it plays such a vital part in helping us to attract a truly global audience. Almost a quarter of eligible applicants for 2023 said they first heard about the Scholarships on social media.

A key thing we have learned is that no-one follows us on social media to hear what ‘The Rhodes Trust’ has to say. It is our role to help forge connections between Scholars and share the stories of what makes this community so special. Often the best thing we can do is to get out of the way. Takeovers are popular because they allow Scholars to show a slice of real life at Oxford, speaking directly from experience and from the heart.

Segmentation of audiences was also something we hadn’t considered in the early days. But now, each social media platform has its own community and distinct atmosphere, and we have found that stories and content resonate differently or require a different angle or approach.

We discovered very quickly that sharing people’s own unique and individual stories had the most profound effect

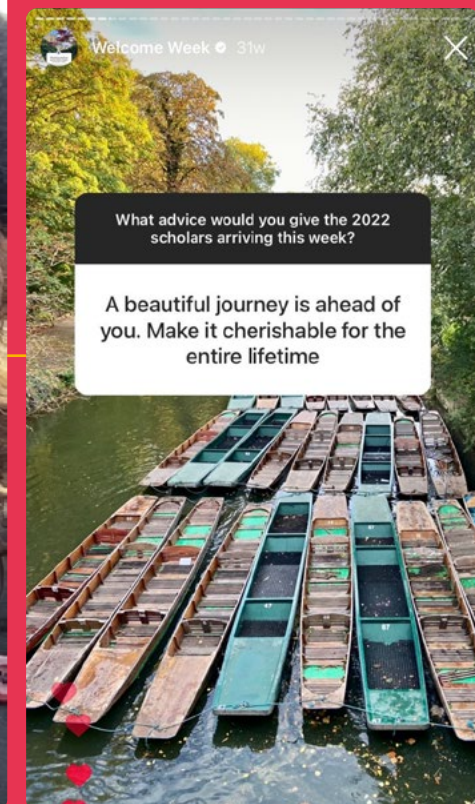
SOCIAL MEDIA TAKEAWAYS

Our laser-focused paid advertising campaigns on Facebook reached more than 15 million potential applicants last year.

We’ve been on Instagram since 2017 and it is where we see the most active engagement. In the past three years we’ve had takeovers from 16 Scholars generously talking about their experiences and answering curious questions.

Twitter has the biggest footprint of all our social media channels and is perfect for amplifying the output, impact and achievements of Scholars worldwide.

LinkedIn is our second biggest platform in terms of followers and is a powerful place to highlight the Trust’s work as a thought leadership community.



SO WHERE NEXT?

TikTok is the latest big player to rise up the social media food chain. Increasingly Gen Z are using TikTok as a search engine, not just a content platform. With one and a half billion monthly active users, is it time for us to join other organisations on TikTok?

Increasing polarisation on social media is also a constant challenge. As platforms vie for retention and revenue, divisive and extreme content often pushes out more balanced content. Supporting Scholars and protecting them from abuse and harm on social media platforms is a critical factor when we plan and post online and in how we manage comments.

Let us know what you think of our social media output. Do you have any ideas for campaigns? Is there anything you would like to see featured? Contribute. If you have a story you would like to share with others in the Rhodes community, then get in touch! We would love to share the impact you are having with the world.



@RhodesTrust
 @rhodes_trust
 @rhodestrust
 Rhodes Trust
 Rhodes Trust

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with your fellow Scholars, the Trust, and our partnership programmes. Whether it's immersing yourself in the Scholar experience on Instagram, discovering fresh new thinking on LinkedIn, or celebrating Alumni successes on Twitter, there is so much to explore! Use our handles (above), or scan the QR code.

Remembering Rhodes in Your Will

An Invitation to Join Us and Become Members of the Rhodes Society

We are honoured to have recently accepted our Warden's request to become the first-ever Co-Chairs of the Rhodes Society. We invite you to join us and become part of this special community of 100 Scholars and Friends and include the Scholarships in your Will and Estate plans.

We have both thought carefully about our own legacies and how we want to help shape and support the Trust in the years and decades to come. We, of course, first took care of our family and loved ones but then we also thought about our values and vision for the future. Although we can't imagine today what the challenges of tomorrow will be, we know the world will continue to need the bright minds, energy, passion and commitment of future Rhodes Scholars to work in the service of humanity.

In this special 120th anniversary year, please consider joining us as we, our global community, invest in and shape the future of this wonderful institution that has given so much to all of us. Leaving a bequest in our Wills is the ultimate charitable gift we all can make and collectively our impact can be much larger than we might imagine.

We would each be happy to engage with you individually to talk about how we imagined our impact. If you would like a confidential conversation, please contact Tillie Shuster at the Trust tillie.shuster@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk and she will connect us or can provide you with more detailed information.

Rhodes Society - investing in a future we can only imagine



Ann Colbourne
(Newfoundland &
Corpus Christi 1980)



Kameel Premhid
(KwaZulu-Natal & Lady
Margaret Hall 2013)

New hub receives £2 million to develop tomorrow's communications technologies

The University of Oxford is to lead a new Future Communications Hub on All Spectrum Connectivity to help develop the digital communication infrastructures of tomorrow. This effort will bring together researchers from the Universities of Belfast, Bristol, Cambridge, Oxford, Southampton, Strathclyde, Imperial College and UCL. The Hub is being supported by a £2 million investment from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), part of UK Research and Innovation.



Exciting discovery of Dürer sketch

Among the discoveries made during a research project focusing on the museum's German old master drawings, a drawing which for years lay unidentified in the Ashmolean's collections can now be attributed to German artist Albrecht Dürer. Drawn in pen and brown ink, the tiny sketch had been kept in an archival box containing an eclectic group of loose, anonymous drawings.



Pandemic Sciences Institute formally launched

The University of Oxford's Pandemic Sciences Institute (PSI) has been formally launched at a two-day event last summer at the Blavatnik School of Government, at which the lead researchers set out its direction and strategy for the next five years. The Institute will harness the University's research excellence as well as its global research collaborations and partnerships developed over decades between academia, industry and governments – many of whom were represented at the PSI launch, including Dr Jenny Harries and Patrick Vallance.



Oxford leads Nature Positive Universities Alliance

At the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15), the University of Oxford and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) announced the launch of the Nature Positive Universities Alliance – a global network of universities that have made an official pledge to advance efforts to halt, prevent and reverse nature loss through addressing their own impacts and restoring ecosystems harmed by their activities. This push is part of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a movement to avert climate catastrophe and mass extinction.



Construction of the Schwarzman Centre gets underway

The largest building project ever undertaken by Oxford University got underway this February and remains on track to be completed in 2025. It has been made possible by a gift from Stephen A. Schwarzman, who is the Chairman, CEO and co-founder of Blackstone, one of the world's leading investment firms. It is set to become one of the biggest buildings to adhere to Passivhaus standards. The Centre will boost teaching and research in the humanities at Oxford University.



Obituaries

Selected obituaries from the past year. For all Rhodes Scholar obituaries, please visit www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/alumni-volunteers/obituaries/

ARTHUR HODGSON
(Bermuda & St Peter's 1964)

25 FEBRUARY 1940 – 6 FEBRUARY 2023

A former environment minister for Bermuda's Progressive Labour Party, Arthur Hodgson was a stalwart – and occasionally outspoken when he disagreed with colleagues. He was also the island's first Black Rhodes Scholar, as well as a lawyer and former magistrate. After three years as a magistrate, Arthur Hodgson returned to politics as an MP in the landmark General Election of 1998 that brought the PLP to power.

KENNETH ROBINSON
(Bermuda & Brasenose 1972)

21 MARCH 1950 – FEBRUARY 2023

A prominent lawyer who served on various public boards and tribunals and advised the Government on business, Kenneth Robinson became the first Black partner at one of Bermuda's main law firms. He began his career working for Sir Edward Richards, a lawyer who went on to become the first Black Bermudian to lead the Government. Kenneth Robinson attended Yale University in the United States, going on to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar in 1972.

THOMAS HUGHES
(Minnesota & Balliol 1947)

11 DECEMBER 1925 – 2 JANUARY 2023

Supremely knowledgeable about world history and US foreign affairs, Thomas Hughes was a voice of reason on the Vietnam War inside the Johnson administration. After graduating from Carleton College in 1947, he was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford (Balliol). He came to Washington in 1955 as legislative counsel to Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota. Thomas Hughes then served Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, from 1961 to 1969, as Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research. From 1971 to 1991 he was president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

JAMES MCLEOD
(New South Wales & New College 1953)

18 JANUARY 1932 – 2022

James McLeod was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University in 1953, and in 1956 He graduated with a DPhil for his studies into the physiology of pain. During his candidature he represented Oxford in the Oxford and Cambridge boat race and in 1954, with three other Australian Scholars in the crew, helped Oxford to win the centenary race.

ASHTON CARTER
(Connecticut & St John's 1976)

24 SEPTEMBER 1954 – 24 OCTOBER 2022

A Former US Defense Secretary who served in the final two years of Barack Obama's presidency, Ashton Carter guided US policy in the Middle East during the rise of so-called 'Islamic State' extremists in Syria and Iraq, and later engaged in academic studies on counterterrorism. Ashton Carter made significant changes to the Department of Defense, including lifting the ban on transgender people serving in the US military and opening all military occupations to women without exception for the first time.

BRYCE NELSON
(Idaho & St John's 1959)

16 DECEMBER 1937 – 20 AUGUST 2022

Bryce Nelson was an award-winning journalist, dedicated professor and former director of the USC Annenberg School of Journalism. After two decades as a reporter at major news organisations, including the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Washington Post*, Bryce Nelson devoted the final 30 years of his career to training and mentoring future journalists while tirelessly serving the broader USC community.

ELLIOTT LEVITAS
(Georgia & University 1952)

26 DECEMBER 1950 – 16 DECEMBER 2022

When Elliott Levitas became Georgia's first Jewish congressman in 1975, he was already known for being a public servant who had stood up against racism in the formerly segregated state. Elliott Levitas continued with his calling to aid others for years afterwards, helping to lead a landmark class-action lawsuit on behalf of American Indians against the US government.

CAREY PARKER
(Pennsylvania & Trinity 1956)

3 OCTOBER 1934 – 4 DECEMBER 2022

Carey Parker helped shape and shepherd to passage some of the most significant federal laws of the past 50 years as the chief legislative aide to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, becoming an eminence of Capitol Hill in his own right. Carey Parker joined Kennedy's office in 1969 as a Rhodes Scholar with a Harvard law degree.

EUSEBIUS MCKAISER
(South Africa-at-Large & St Antony's 2003)

28 MARCH 1978 – 30 MAY 2023

Eusebius McKaiser was a prolific writer, broadcaster and activist. He was well known across South Africa for his astute political commentary, grounded in his academic training as a moral philosopher. Eusebius had written for, among others, the *New York Times*, *Guardian* and *Sunday Times*. He was a Radio 702 talk show host and had authored three books about South African politics and society. In recent years, Eusebius had also served as co-chair of the Rhodes Trust's 'Engaging our History' advisory group, and his energy, dedication and generous spirit of service will be sorely missed.

Appointments and Awards

Congratulations to these Rhodes Scholars on their recent achievements!

NICK ALLARD (New York & Merton 1974) appointed founding Dean of the Jacksonville University College of Law.

JOHN BERGERON (Québec & Worcester 1966) named to the Order of Canada.

TANMAY BHARAT (India & Hertford 2006) awarded the 2023 Microbiology Society Fleming Prize.

SARA BRONIN (Texas & Magdalen 2001) appointed chair of the US Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

BOB EDGE (Georgia & Oriel 1960) awarded the University of Georgia's President's Medal.

JOHN FINNIS (South Australia & University 1962) appointed a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) for services to Legal Scholarship.

ARAVIND GANESH (Prairies & St John's 2014) awarded the Panmure House Prize for exceptional research into long-term investment and its relationship with innovation.

MENAKA GURUSWAMY (India & University 1998) awarded the Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medal in Law.

ATISHI MARLENA (India & Magdalen 2005) appointed as Minister of Education of Delhi.

MICHAEL MCFAUL (Montana & St John's 1986) awarded the Order of Merit, Third Degree by the Government of Ukraine for his support and advocacy on behalf of Ukraine.

WES MOORE (Maryland/DC & Wolfson 2001) elected Governor of Maryland.

MONDE MUYANGWA (Zambia & St Anne's 1987) appointed member of the United States African Development Foundation.

DEEPAK NAYYAR (India & Balliol 1967) appointed Kluge Chair in Countries and Cultures of the South by the US Library of Congress.

ELIZABETH STONE (Australia-at-Large & University 1998) appointed Head of Winchester College.

JENI WHALAN (Australia-at-Large & Balliol 2005) appointed Head of the Australian Government's Strengthening Democracy Taskforce.

SALIM YUSUF (India & St John's 1976) awarded the Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers.

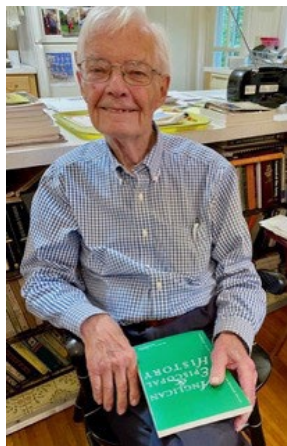
If you have a new appointment or award, please email Babette Littlemore, Director of Communications: babette.littlemore@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk

1953



Guido Calabresi (Connecticut & Magdalen 1953)

Guido teaches part-time at Yale Law School and sits two-thirds time as Senior Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. His oral history, done by Norman Silber, was just published by the Oxford Press. It is called *Outside In* and is 600 or so pages in two volumes. Guido is scheduled to deliver the Ryan Lecture at Georgetown Law School in April. He and his wife Anne do not travel as much as they used to but still get to Italy where they have an olive grove and make oil. He continues to receive more than his share of honorary degrees from universities all over the world.



William Brown Patterson (North Carolina & Magdalen 1953)

After studying at Oxford, Episcopal Theological School and Harvard, Brown taught in the History Department at Davidson College and then at Sewanee: The University of the South, where he was Dean of the College from 1980 to 1991. He has

served regularly as an Episcopal priest while focusing his teaching and research on Early Modern Europe. Brown has written four books and many articles, including, most recently, 'Religion and the Royal Society in Early Restoration England', in *Anglican and Episcopal History*, September 2022. The article suggests that the Royal Society, consisting in large part of church members, helped prepare the way for scientific research.

Stephen Stamas (Massachusetts & Balliol 1953) is retired after a career which included working in Exxon Corporation and two stints of service in the US government. He served as chairman of the New York Philharmonic and of Marlboro Music School and Festival and on a number of other boards, including Rockefeller University and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. He also was for many years on the board of Americans for Oxford. He has maintained a strong interest in Oxford and Balliol matters. His priority now is his family, including five grandchildren.

1963

Daniel A. Carrell (North Carolina & Merton 1963)

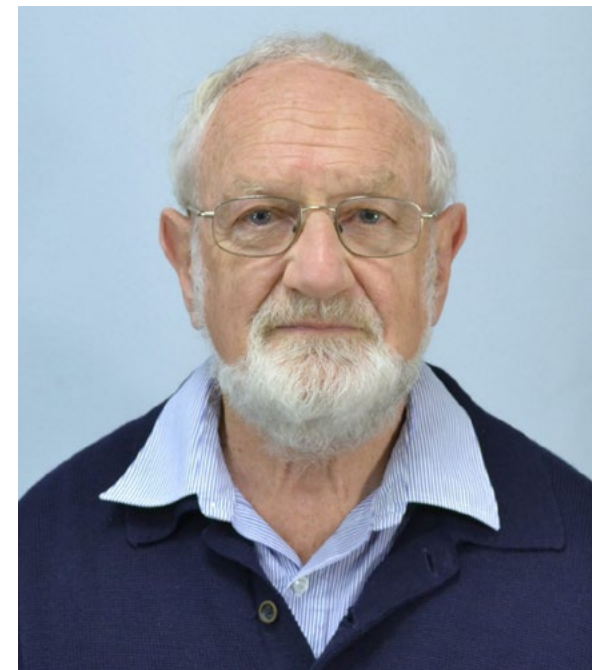
Still practising law, on the theory that practice makes perfect but perfection is never achievable, Dan has phased down his practice in civil litigation, commercial transactions, administrative law, and church-related law. He serves on the Standing Judicial Commission of the Presbyterian Church in America, a denomination of which he has served as Moderator (presiding officer); strives to maintain a decent tennis game; and assists the work of Merton College Charitable Corporation. Married for almost 47 years, Janis and he have two daughters (nurse and lawyer), and three grandchildren. No longer active in political affairs, he is deeply concerned over the erosion of the rule of law and the general decline of civil society, but takes comfort from the sovereignty of God.



William T. Kerr (Washington & New College 1963)

After a long career leading media and marketing public companies, Bill focuses his current business activities on private equity investments and corporate board service. He also

chairs American Friends of New College, serves on the Board of Harvard Business School Publishing and writes tanka short form poetry. Bill and his wife, Mary, will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary this October, and still split their year between Palm Beach, New York City and Quogue, with grandparenting efforts in Washington, DC. When not playing tennis or squash, Bill and Mary focus their activities on collecting Chinese antiquities and modern Chinese works of ink on paper.



Alan Kirkness (New Zealand & Queens 1963) After Oxford, Alan returned to his home university Auckland as a Lecturer in German before moving in 1973 to Germany to work as a lexicologist and lexicographer on the question of foreignisms (*Fremdwörter*) in German in Heidelberg/Mannheim. In 1986 he took up an appointment as Professor of German at Auckland, where he retired in 2004 as Professor of Applied Language Studies. In retirement he completed several research projects on the work of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm in close collaboration with colleagues at the Humboldt University in Berlin. Alan and his wife Alison have two children and two grandchildren. Having divided their time between NZ/Auckland and Europe (Germany, France), they now live in Auckland.



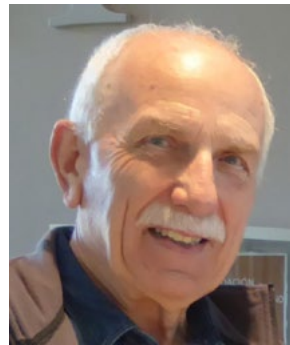
Richard L. (Dick) Klass (New York & Trinity 1963) earned a First in PPE and spent a postgraduate year earning a BLitt at Nuffield. He was assigned to a tour in Vietnam where he was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart. He medically retired from the US Air Force as a Colonel in 1980.

He went on to a business career with two major Aerospace companies and two international consulting firms until retiring in 2000. He then volunteered with several NGOs, served as a Commissioner on the American Battle Monuments Commission and was involved as a volunteer with the Presidential campaigns of Bill Clinton and Barak Obama. He and his wife, Elizabeth, spend their retirement travelling and enjoying their two grandchildren who often visit their Arlington, Virginia home.



John Knubel (New Jersey & University 1963) John's passion is to improve US constitutional government and the associated world order it has enabled since WWII. It's been his passion since experiencing the 1973 energy crisis 'from the inside out' while on

Henry Kissinger's staff watching the US be blindsided and the world economic and geopolitical order radically changed overnight. He's focused on preserving the American power umbrella responsible for the unprecedented human progress apparent since WWII. He's glad the Rhodes Trust allowed Scholars to marry in 1964 when Carole became his bride, leading to three daughters and seven grandchildren. He's thankful to the Oxford experience for forcing his questioning and re-embracing of Christian hope and values. They remain his life focus. He can be reached at Johnknubel@gmail.com



Ronald Eric McAllister (Nova Scotia & Brasenose 1963) Eric began in geophysics and gradually entered medicine. After returning to Dalhousie University's Physiology & Biophysics Department to teach and continue experimental &

computer studies of the cardiac action potential, he went on to become a primary care physician. In addition to solo practising for 15 years in two California locations, he spent another 15 years conducting clinical research studies for several pharmaceutical and clinical device companies, large and small. Now semi-retired in Northern California, he and wife Suzanne keep a footprint in Nova Scotia with a second home there, while Eric completes a medical records database program for free distribution to individuals anywhere, intended to promote practice improvement in less-developed areas with no internet.

James Quitslund (Washington & Magdalen 1963) initially expected Oxford to cement his commitment to teaching language and literature in a quiet place like Phillips Andover or Williams, where he held his first jobs. Instead, Oxford exposed the narrowness of this vision, and he inhabited various realms including academic administration (Harvard, Institute for Advanced Study, University of Washington) and business; in his 60s, he was instrumental in turning a start-up into a thriving business. What remained of the original goal-setting were a dream marriage, community service and becoming a performing classical pianist, three life's callings all on their own and all direct results of his encounters with Oxford, the UK and Europe.

Joseph Stanley Sanders (California & Magdalen 1963) When Joseph left Oxford in 1965 for home, he had no idea that the tight-knit community of Watts where he grew up was about to erupt in social upheaval. It was not until he completed Yale Law School in 1968 and returned to Watts that he was able to participate in the community rebuild effort. He got his LA law firm to open a neighbourhood office there, which he later spun off into his own eponymous law firm that survives to this day in downtown LA, with almost a hundred lawyers. In addition to the Sanders Firm, he founded three institutions that also survive, the Watts Summer Festival, the LA Black Arts Council and the Black Businessmen's Association. He ran unsuccessfully for Mayor of LA, in 1993. He and his wife Debbie continue to reside in LA and are the parents of a blended family with nine adult children and eleven grandchildren.

Michel Vennat, OC KC (Québec & Merton 1963) is now retired and enjoying his studies in History and International Affairs when not engaged in fly fishing, tennis, golf and skiing. After Oxford, he led a successful and eclectic career as a government advisor, corporate lawyer and business executive. He dedicated his time and energy to a variety of organisations committed to a strong and united Canada, particularly as Chairman of the Council for Canadian Unity, for which he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. He is looking forward to his visit to Oxford next summer.

Sam W. Westbrook III (Alaska & Trinity 1963) After almost 20 years on the board of a small health care-related survey company, SurveyVitals, Inc., the company was acquired by Qualtrix in December 2021 and Sam is now fully retired. The Westbrooks still live on Bainbridge Island, Washington, where they have been for 25 years and enjoy golf, reading, and trips to Europe to visit Paris and family in Scotland. A Zoom call with Rhodes classmates once a month is a highlight.



Tim Wilson (Diocesan College, Rondebosch & Lincoln 1963) Tim returned home in 1970 and has worked as a doctor and an activist in South Africa ever since. He was a paediatrician for 13 years, became increasingly active within the liberation movement, and moved steadily from clinical paediatrics into community and public health. He spent seven years as director of the Alexandra Health Centre in a ghetto area of Johannesburg and moved to the new National Department of Health soon after the first democratic elections in 1994. He retired in 2006 and spent the next ten years with NGOs helping to support managers, mostly in rural areas. He and Ilse Fischer have been married for 52 years and have two children and two grandchildren.

1973



Hugh Ashton (Rhodesia & New College 1973) After a career as a transport economist and management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers and, latterly, Steer, Hugh retired to Burford in Oxfordshire, the birthplace and former home of his wife, Sue. Sue is a keen gardener and practising garden designer and organises local garden open events in aid of local causes. In Burford, Hugh chaired the local ten-day bi-annual Festival for eight years, until 2020, and this year he entered local politics as the Lib Dem councillor for Burford Ward in West Oxfordshire District.

Simon Best (South Australia & New College 1973) After a career in the Australian Treasury in Canberra and then Barings investment bank in London and New York, Simon retired in 2001. He took up a voluntary role chairing a committee for the Church of England Diocese of St Albans for 13 years, alongside five years part-time work with Fitch, the rating agency. He still lives in rural Hertfordshire, where he is active with his parish church and his golf club. He and his wife Jane met at Oxford and now both enjoy time with their four sons and 11 grandchildren spread between the UK and Australia. They are delighted to own some agricultural land near home with a wood, which they manage for wildlife.

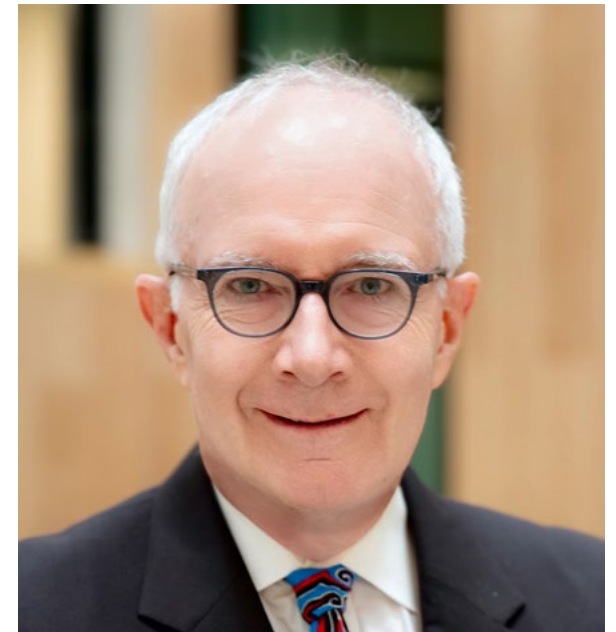


Paul Blustein (Wisconsin & Merton 1973) has been banging away on books about economics since retiring from newspapers in 2006, when he took a buyout that the *Washington Post* offered to newsroom geezers. He specialises in chronicling international financial crises and debacles in the global trading system, so he has not lacked for fresh material. His most recently published book, *Schism*, is about the US-China trade relationship, and he is nearing completion of another book about the global dominance of the US dollar. Paul lives in Kamakura, Japan with his wife Yoshie Sakai, who abides his many gaijin faux pas. A father of four, he travels often, lugging suitcases full of Japanese toys, treats and finery for his five-year-old grandson and two-year-old granddaughter.

Andrew H. Brown (New Zealand & Worcester 1973) After returning to New Zealand, Andrew became a partner in national law firm Russell McVeagh. He specialised in intellectual property law and was co-author of a textbook on IP in New Zealand. In 1998 Andrew became a barrister sole and was appointed a Queen's Counsel (now King's Counsel) in 2002. He has appeared in multiple IP cases in all appellate courts and has taken leadership roles in law reform (the Legal Research Foundation) and IP specialist bodies and committees.

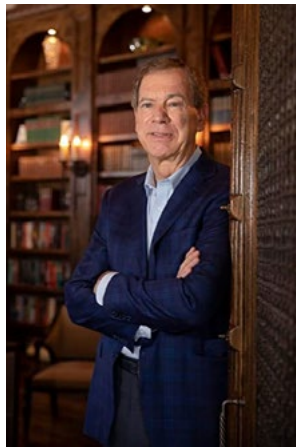


Raymond M. Burse (Kentucky & St John's 1973) Returning to the US Raymond attended Harvard Law School before returning to his home state of Kentucky. In Kentucky he has practised law with a Louisville law firm on two occasions, becoming a partner. With a commitment to education and its importance as the great equaliser, he has served as President of Kentucky State University twice, a member of the Kentucky Council on Public Higher Education, and a trustee of his undergraduate alma mater Centre College, Thomas More College, Alabama A&M University and the University of Louisville. Raymond served as general counsel to GE's Appliance and Lighting business, retiring as a GE Vice President and corporate officer. Raymond and Kim, his wife, are the parents of three sons and grandparents to five grandkids, which is what gives their lives fulfilment in retirement.



Paul Cadario (Ontario & Magdalen 1973) Retired from the World Bank for ten years, Paul has resumed his commute to the University of Toronto. Long a donor and volunteer, as Distinguished Fellow in Global Innovation, he teaches capstone design to civil engineers interested in sustainable communities for the poor, engages with master's students at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, and attends conferences on technology, democracy, and international political and financial affairs. He and Dan have resumed regular travel to countries 'once they reopen', but when he's not doing quality control on airlines, Paul spends a lot of time on hyperlocal Washington, DC government.

Delroy Chuck (Jamaica & St Catherine's 1973) was Jamaican and Caribbean Selection Rhodes Secretary from 1986 to 1995. He taught Law at the University of the West Indies, from 1976 to 1995. He practised law at the Jamaica Bar from 1982 and was appointed QC in 2011. Elected MP to Jamaican Parliament since 1995, Delroy was Speaker of the House from 2007 to 2011, and Minister of Justice in 2011 and from 2016 to present. He married Gloria Patricia in 1979, and together they have four daughters, four granddaughters and two grandsons.



Paul E. Coggins (New Mexico & University 1973) Paul is the Co-Chair of his law firm's White Collar Criminal Defense and Internal Investigations Practice Group and is a nationally recognised criminal defense attorney, whose clients have included high-ranking politicians, Fortune 500 executives,

professional athletes, nonprofit organisations, and government bodies. He is the former United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. He is the author of several legal and mystery thrillers, including *The Lady is the Tiger*, *Sting Like a Butterfly* and *The Eye of the Tigress*. Paul co-authored *Out of Bounds*, a book about college athletics with former US Congressman Tom McMillen (University College, 1974). Paul met his wife, Regina Montoya, at Harvard Law, and they have one daughter.



Oxford University Ice Hockey team 1975-1976, including a number of Rhodes Scholars, with Geoff Dougherty (Québec & Worcester 1973) first on the left in the second row

Geoff Dougherty (Québec & Worcester 1973) After leaving Oxford in 1976, Geoff completed his medical studies and subsequently became a Paediatrician. This began a lifetime of care and advocacy for vulnerable children in the health care system and community, through teaching and research. His practice and academic work have focussed on the field of social paediatrics, teaching medical students, residents and advanced fellows in the field. His clinical work includes a variety of clinical settings in the community. He has a special interest in the dynamics of the recovery from child neglect. A recent project is being one of the class leaders for the Class of 1973.



Spencer Eth (California & Wadham 1973) After many years as an academic psychiatrist, his most enduring memories are related to the 9/11 World Trade Center terrorist attack that occurred while he worked at St Vincent's Hospital in Manhattan. Spence testified before the Senate Health

Committee about victims and witnesses who were traumatised by the collapse of the Towers and loss of life. He helped organise a comprehensive community response, with special programmes for students, police officers and firefighters who were near ground zero. For the last decade, Spence has been Chief of Mental Health for the Miami VA Medical Center and Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Miami, where he oversees care provided to veterans, including those from the post-9/11 war in Afghanistan.



Lyndall Gordon (Rhodes Visiting Fellow & St Hilda's 1973) was born in South Africa but at the time of election was at Columbia University, NY. She subsequently taught at Columbia; then became a lecturer in English at Jesus College, Oxford, and seven years later became a Tutor and Fellow in English back at St Hilda's. All the while, she published literary biographies and from the mid-nineties became a fulltime biographer. Her latest is *The Hyacinth Girl: T.S. Eliot's Hidden Muse*.

Richard Haass (Florida & Wadham 1973) Richard has: served under four presidents (Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Bush) in various roles at the Defense Department, State Department, and the National Security Council; taught at two schools (Harvard and Hamilton); worked at four think tanks (Institute for Strategic Studies, Carnegie Endowment, Brookings Institution, and the Council on Foreign Relations, where he served as president for 20 years); wrote or edited 14 books on foreign policy, one on management, and, most recently, one on civics (*The Bill of Obligations: The Ten Habits of Good Citizens*); is still averaging 12,000 steps a day; and, most importantly, is living in New York with his wife and two children.



Wilhelm (Willi) Kleppmann (Germany & Merton 1973) After his DPhil in physics in Oxford and a brief spell in solid state research, he spent many years in industry in Stuttgart and Munich, first doing statistical risk analyses and later using statistical methods for process improvement in the semiconductor

industry. In 1991 he returned to academia and ever since, has been teaching mathematics and statistics at Aalen University, where he also wrote a book on Design of Experiments. Even after retirement he cannot stop teaching, because he enjoys it so much – it has always been his aim to interest young people in science and technology. He is married to Rita and they have four children, Martin, Nicola, Philipp and Ben.



Timothy T. Lupfer (New Jersey & Christ Church 1973) served 20 years in the US Army, culminating in commanding a tank battalion (58 M1A1 Abrams tanks, over 700 soldiers) in combat (Desert Storm). He achieved two goals: getting shot at for his country and bringing

every soldier back home safely. He transitioned to business, retiring as a Managing Director at Deloitte Consulting, where his focus was organisational behaviour. Now fully retired, Tim is, yes, still married to his high school sweetheart, Pam, with two children and seven grandchildren. Although the food was bad back in the 1970s (that's before Gordon Ramsay), the Oxford experience was still priceless.



Fred F. Manget (Georgia & Oriel 1973) spent most of his legal career at the Central Intelligence Agency, where his assignments included Deputy General Counsel, Acting Director of Congressional Affairs, Counsel to the Counterintelligence,

Counterterrorist, and Terrorist Threat Information Centers, legal adviser for the Directorate of Intelligence, and CIA's Officer-In-Residence at the University of Georgia. He was in the Senior Intelligence Service (CIA's Senior Executive Service) for 16 years and received the US Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award. He also spent 38 years in the armed forces reserves, retiring as a colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, United States Army. He and his wife Lesle have three children and one grandson.

Yves-Marie Julien Morissette (Québec & Exeter 1973) After his DPhil in law, he joined the Québec Bar and the Faculty of Law at McGill University, where he later served as Dean. In 2002, he retired from the Arnold Wainwright QC Chair of Civil Law and became a justice of the Québec Court of Appeal, of which he continues to be a member. He and his wife Margriet Zwarts have a daughter, Marieke, who graduated from Oxford (BA Oriental Studies, 2013) and LSE (MSc, 2018), and who now practises law in London UK.



Geoffrey Pasvol (South African College School, Newlands & St Catherine's 1973) After his DPhil (1978) on protection afforded by the haemoglobinopathies against malaria, Geoff stayed on in the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine for 13 years where, as a Wellcome Senior Lecturer, he became the Deputy Medical Officer

to the University, Chair of the Central Oxford Research Ethics Committee and Senior Fellow at Wolfson College. He was the first Scientific Officer of the Wellcome Centre for Clinical Tropical in Kilifi Kenya, established in 1989. In 1990 he was appointed as Professor of Infection and Tropical Medicine at Imperial College London where he worked on the pathogenesis of severe malaria, tuberculosis and other exotic diseases. In 1994 he became the Director of the Imperial College Centre for Clinical Tropical Medicine. He was elected Clinical Dean of Medicine at Imperial in 2007-10. He was popular as a teacher amongst the medical students for whom he chaired an annual Tropical Day, was President of the Students Dramatic Society (2002-5) and was voted by them to address the final year Dinner in 2009. He was Chair of the North Thames training in Infectious Diseases from 1986 until his retirement in 2012 and was an invited lecturer at The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



George D. Patton (Bermuda & Hertford 1973) After settling in Toronto in 1975 George has had a varied career as a political operative, (failed) political candidate, propaganda writer, civil servant, university lecturer and most notably an IT systems consultant.

As a 'retirement gig' he works full time as a flight instructor in Brantford, Ontario and does systems development and programming on the side. He has been active in promoting diversity and inclusion in the aviation industry as a board member of the National Gay Pilots Association and Canadian Aviation Pride. He lives in Guelph, Ontario, with Boomer, Stig, Winston and Mister Schwartz, all of whom have him well trained to come when they call him.



Johannes Rabie (Paul Roos Gymnasium, Stellenbosch & Pembroke 1973) After returning to Tygerberg Hospital in Cape Town in 1976 Johann Rabie qualified as a Specialist Physician in 1978. He went into private practice in 1979 and is still practising Internal Medicine at Panorama Mediclinic after 44 years. He has a special interest in non-invasive cardiology and uses his sonar probe as a visual stethoscope to examine the heart, abdominal organs, carotid arteries and thyroid. He married Roelien Opperman in June 1974 and they have stayed in Welgemoed since 1977. Their daughter is a General Practitioner, their eldest son an Advocate in Cape Town and their youngest son a video film director. Johann has travelled extensively abroad and is a keen yachtsman.



Mark S. Peppler (Montana & Trinity 1973) For 28 years Mark was a professor in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Alberta where his team researched the bacterium

Bordetella pertussis, contributing to the development of the current acellular vaccine for whooping cough as well as newer diagnostics. Post retirement, he enjoys teaching bacteriology and immunology to medical lab science students.

Mark is part of a lively Anglican community in Edmonton, helping select candidates for the priesthood and leading a men's bible study. Mark and his wife Ronnene are returning to Oxford for his Rhodes Class 50th reunion and to celebrate their 50th year of marriage which began at St Nicholas Anglican Church in Old Marston, Oxon.

Lyle Rexer (Michigan & Merton 1973) After a premature departure from Oxford – self-rustication – Lyle stumbled through graduate school (MA, Columbia 1977) and a variety of careers, including 25 years as a consultant for cultural institutions seeking to empty the pockets of wealthy donors. All the while, he wrote, including many articles and books about art and photography. In 2007, by accident, he discovered a late-life competency and began teaching at the School of Visual Arts (NY), where he remains. His family, shared with his wife, the novelist Rachel Klein, expands, with three children and four grandchildren. Lyle's most recent book is *The Critical Eye: 15 Pictures to Understand Photography* (Intellect Press, UK, 2019) and he thinks it's pretty good. His COVID-19-era meditation, *The Book of Crow*, seeks a publisher.



Ralph Smith (Alabama & Corpus Christi 1973) has grown happily old with Betsy, with whom he shared a magical two newlywed years in Oxford. They have three sons and five grandchildren, and continue to live in Birmingham, Alabama. Ralph continues his law practice – and consulting company focused on international collaborations in innovation between Higher Education and Business. He has recently passed the baton on selecting Rhodes Scholars (beginning in 1981 – and on running selections in the Southeastern USA from 2004 to 2018) and as President of the Association of American Rhodes Scholars for two terms, ending in 2020.



Laurance J. Splitter (Victoria & Magdalen 1973) After teaching philosophy in several Australian universities, Laurance became the inaugural director of the Australian Centre for Philosophy for Children and Adolescents in 1988. This was a natural

transition as he had long understood the role that philosophy could play in improving the ways in which young people think, reason and talk together. From 2001 to 2015, he taught in universities in the USA and Hong Kong before retiring and returning to Australia in 2015. He has participated in conferences, seminars and workshops around the world, and remains active in teacher professional development and writing. His most recent book is *Identity, Reasonableness, and Being 'One Among Others': Dialogue, Community, Education* (Springer, 2023).



Michael Tselentis KC (Rhodesia & Magdalen 1973) practises as an international arbitrator from a leading London- and Singapore-based commercial set, Twenty Essex Chambers. After Oxford, he practised initially as an advocate in South Africa, where he was

appointed Senior Counsel in 1989, and an acting judge of the South African Supreme Court in 1992, and was the Chairman of the Johannesburg Bar in 1993-1994. He relocated his practice to the London Bar in 1996 and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2003 and a Bencher of Gray's Inn in 2008. He lives in London but travels extensively in the course of his practice. His profile is at twentyessex.com/people/michael-tselentis/

Terence Valenzuela MD MPH (Arizona & St Catherine's 1973) Terence retired after 35 years with the Department of Emergency Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Arizona. He is looking forward to a double 50th reunion this summer: Harvard College and Rhodes Scholar Classes of 1973.



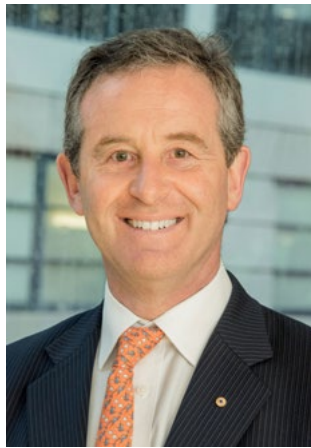
Christopher G. Winearls (Diocesan College, Rondebosch & Keble 1973) After 31 years a consultant nephrologist and clinical academic in Oxford, he retired in 2019 to study history and tend his roses. He taught and supervised students as Fellow of Jesus College and served as Principal Examiner in Medicine

working with the Director of Clinical Studies, also a Rhodes Scholar. His research in renal anaemia described the first use of recombinant erythropoietin in man and in 2018 the largest ever randomised trial of iron supplements. He delivered the Osler Oration to the Royal College of Physicians and served as a Censor and Examiner. He was Clinical Vice President of his speciality's national society providing advice on treatment policy. He has been an editor of four editions of the *Oxford Textbook of Clinical Nephrology*. In 2021 he directed the University Covid Early Alert Service.

1983



Peter Binks (Tasmania & St Johns 1983) is Vice President (Industry & External Engagement) at Griffith University in Queensland Australia. He and wife Dr Catherine Lynch will ease into retirement in Melbourne and Tasmania within coming years. Peter has worked with **Dr Evelyn Chan** (Victoria & Hertford 2011)'s VR medtech firm Smileyscope and the Australian start-up community. He has maintained support to Rhodes candidates and the community in both Victoria and Queensland. Peter bushwalks, plays field hockey, and trains seeing-eye dogs.



David Celermajer (New South Wales & New College 1983) After Oxford and a stint at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London (more research, training with kids and having a couple of his own there), Celermajer returned to University of Sydney and RPA Hospital to found the Adult Congenital

Heart Disease Service, now the largest such service in the southern hemisphere. He assumed several leadership positions in research and heart-related NGOs, participated in many projects in Africa and Asia to improve heart health and continued work as a clinician-scientist in Sydney. One of the few physicians to be elected as a fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences (2006), Celermajer received an AO for services to heart health, in 2014. He has supervised over 25 PhD students, many of whom are now professors and academic leaders themselves, in Australia and beyond, as well as over 100 young cardiologists. Has also been involved in medical device invention and commercialisation, almost always with other Rhodes Alumni!

David I. Cohen (South Africa-at-Large & Balliol 1983) After a period of time at Goldman Sachs and then Farallon Capital (a hedge fund), David launched his own operation in 2012. He spends his time on investing as well as running Ezra's charitable trust which is largely focused on jobs and job creation in Africa. He and John Lazar also launched Enza – an impact venture capital fund in Africa. He is now splitting his time between Delray Beach, FL and New York City.



Charles Conn (Massachusetts & Balliol 1983) Post-Warden life has been busy and good for Camilla and Charles. Charles has launched a new venture firm, Monograph, with **Fred Cohen** (Florida & Wolfson 1978) and **Travis Murdoch** (Alberta & St John's 2007). He is chairing Patagonia through its important evolution, and his new book came out in

April, *The Imperfectionists: Strategic Mindsets for Uncertain Times*. Please say hello if you are in London or Stockholm.



Catherine Craig (Newfoundland & Magdalen 1983) became an obstetrician/gynecologist and Professor at Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada. In addition to her clinical career, she is passionate about using simulation as an effective teaching modality. Dr Craig

pioneered the development of the obstetrics simulation programme for undergraduate and postgraduate students at Dalhousie which was subsequently adopted by other programmes within Canada and in other countries. She also contributed to the development of the Canadian Ob/Gyn simulation program for residency training programs, as well as the development of simulation programs in Rwanda and Ghana. Her contributions to the literature are in the areas of clinical obstetrics and in medical education, with a focus on simulation. As an advocate for wellness in medicine, she led the development of the first wellness committee within her department, as well as designed and implemented a wellness curriculum for residents in Ob/Gyn at Dalhousie, which has also been adopted by other training programs across Canada. She retired in 2021 to pursue her many interests outside of medicine and to continue to enjoy her life with her family. She is married to Ian McKinnon and has two children, Aiden and Mairi.

David Duncombe (Wyoming & Wadham 1983) continues his second career as a business professor by enjoying a Fulbright Finland-sponsored year teaching at Helsinki's Haaga-Helia's University of Applied Sciences in a range of marketing and economics topics to students from around the world. In some ways, it has been an opportunity to relive aspects of his Rhodes experience. He has even joined a rowing club, although the saunas and ice swimming after the workouts are certainly different. **Claudena Skran** (Michigan & Magdalen 1983) was able to join him for much of the fall while on sabbatical, which added to the Rhodes-like experience. Both are looking forward to attending the reunion this summer, after which David will return to teaching in the University of Wisconsin system.



Lawrence Ellis (New Jersey & University 1983) Compelled to do more on climate change after recent IPCC reports, in November 2022, Lawrence left his role as Co-Lead for Health Equity Thought Leadership at Accenture – simultaneously ending a multi-year assignment as Health Equity Executive Strategist at Genentech. He spends half his time as Lead Sustainability Advisor & Coach for a)plan coaching. The other half, he works with Mark Beam, Co-Founder of SOCAP Global, convener of the world's largest impact investing community, and others on launching an international sustainability initiative. He is Founding Board President of Breathe non-profit, working on climate, environmental and racial justice. He lives with his partner, Mike, in Oakland, California – and is still adjusting to both kids, now in their early twenties, living in New York.

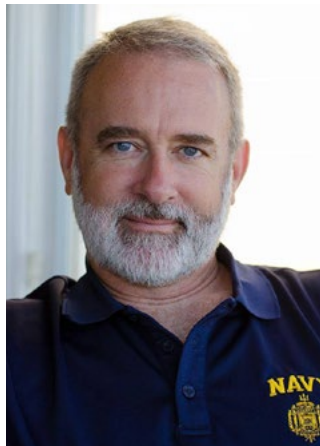
Timothy Endicott (Ontario & Corpus Christi 1983) Timothy married Annalise Acorn in July 2020, and in the same year he was elected to the Vinerian Professorship of English Law. That meant a move from Balliol, where he had taught law for 20 years, around the corner to All Souls. Timothy is working on UK and comparative constitutional law, and on the philosophy of legal interpretation. Timothy and Annalise live in Kidlington, five miles up the Canal from Oxford.

John Fanestil (New Hampshire & Magdalen 1983) continues working along and across the US-Mexico border near his home in San Diego, California. Presently he is the Executive Director of Via International and the Convener of the Friends of Friendship Park coalition. Fanestil also continues to write. His next book, *American Heresy: The Roots and Reach of White Christian Nationalism*, is due out from Fortress Press in Fall 2023. Fanestil and his wife, Jennifer Leich, are plotting and scheming their way towards a life in retirement they hope will include more travel.



Tim Gokey (North Dakota & New College 1983) Tim is CEO of Broadridge Financial Solutions, a global financial services technology firm. Tim keeps in touch with issues in corporate governance and financial markets through his role at

Broadridge, which provides core infrastructure for leading Capital Markets, Wealth, and Investment Management firms, clearing and settling \$10T in trades daily and powering Boards of Directors elections for 8,000 public companies in North America and 40,000 globally. Previously, Tim ran the Tax business at H&R Block and was a Partner at McKinsey. Tim and his wife Michelle were in Oxford last summer with their son William (17) and daughter Elizabeth (13), and he and Michelle look forward to the reunion this summer.



Mark L. Gorenflo

(Virginia and New College 1983) After Oxford, Mark had a full 21-year career as a Navy submariner, culminating in command of USS PARCHE (SSN683). Retiring from active duty, Mark continued to serve in numerous positions in the

Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs, including seven years in the Senior Executive Service. After 35 years of Federal Service, in 2014 Mark headed for the California Bay Area to start a new chapter. As part of that new start, he received his MBA from UC Berkeley Haas School of Business Executive MBA Program in January 2017. He immediately commenced work at Haas, where he leads the Evening & Weekend MBA Program.



Stan Hurn (Natal & St Edmund Hall 1983)

After a conventional academic career that included positions at the Universities of Glasgow and Melbourne, a stint as Fellow in Economics at Brasenose and finally a chair in econometrics at Queensland University

of Technology, Stan will retire in mid 2023. He now resides in the southernmost municipality in Australia (the Huon Valley in Tasmania) where his aim is to live off the land and leave it in a better state than he found it.



Peter Kanowski

(Australia-at-Large & St John's 1983) and Lisa Robins (Green Templeton 1994) met in Oxford and moved to Canberra in 1995, when Peter took up the Chair of Forestry at the Australian National University. For the past eight

years, he has also been Master of University House, a venerable ANU institution established as an 'Oxbridge in the Bush'. That role comes with responsibilities for the wellbeing of 200 graduate student residents and a commercial hotel enterprise, offering many ongoing learning opportunities. Peter has been Australian National Secretary for the Rhodes Scholarships since 2020, a privilege through which he's appreciated the wisdom and work of fellow Secretaries and selection committee members (and the contemporaneous Warden), and the extraordinary wealth of talent amongst Rhodes candidates.



John Lazar (South

Africa-at-Large & Balliol 1983) John is focusing strongly on the boundary of technology and entrepreneurship, dividing his time between chairing What3words, the Raspberry Pi Foundation and the Enterprise Committee

at the Royal Academy of Engineering, and being a general partner at Enza Capital (co-founded with **David I. Cohen** (South Africa-at-Large & Balliol 1983), and Mike Mompfi) which has now invested in more than 30 African companies using technology to solve large and meaningful problems.



Dr Andrew S. Nevin, PhD (Ontario & Balliol 1983)

has had a serendipitous 36-year career in a wide variety of roles, including line manager, strategy consultant, investor, economist, entrepreneur, author, and public intellectual. In his working life, Andrew has lived an equal amount of time in Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe. For the last ten years he has been a public intellectual and nation builder in Nigeria, the world's sixth most populous country. Andrew is transitioning back to North America after his time in Nigeria and is the Leader of the Brainomics Project at the University of Texas at Dallas, Center for BrainHealth, where he is positioning the Center as the global leader in the Economics of Brain Health – Brainomics. He is also a leader in the emerging concept of Flourishing where he focuses on shifting public policy from a GDP Lens to a Flourishing Lens. He recently published his book (co-authored with Dr Elizabeth Neill), *Flourishing in Canada: How to Get the Good Life*. The most difficult part of so much time away from home has been no ice hockey and Andrew looks forward to restarting again in his 60s!



Raymond Paretzky (New York & Trinity 1983)

is Senior Counsel at the law firm McDermott Will & Emery in Washington, DC. He has extensive experience handling complex international trade matters for US and non-US clients, counseling clients on import relief measures, customs compliance, export controls, trade sanctions and CFIUS. Raymond has served on the firm's pro bono committee for many years and has principally been personally involved in representing asylum seekers referred by McDermott partner Human Rights First. He and his wife Karen enjoy spending time with family and friends at their mountain house near Shenandoah National Park in rural Rappahannock County, Virginia.

Pierre Piché (Québec & Keble 1983) now lives in Magog, Québec and is entering a fun portion of his life. After leaving Oxford, Pierre had a career in finance and investment, first in Germany and then in Canada. He worked for a German bank and for, in turn, an engineering construction company, a pension fund manager and an investment holding company. Having happily concluded three fulfilling periods of professional life, he will now go for a bit of overtime as a 'pensioner but not retiree'. His overtime will hopefully consist of a judicious blend of professional involvement in sustainable finance, community engagement, family support and personal enjoyment on travelling, outdoor activities, and nurturing friendships. His partner Angelika and he are parents to three fabulous children and two amazing grandchildren.

David Robertson (South Australia & Magdalen 1983) practised at the New South Wales Bar for 31 years (1991-2022) before moving in 2022 to become a full-time member of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal. He keeps semi-fit running and bushwalking. He makes regular visits to the USA, where his daughter, Samantha, now resides in the Bay Area, and takes the opportunity to explore the National Parks of the West Coast.



Terrence Majid Tehranian (Hawaii & Magdalen 1983) still lives in London despite repeat attempts to expatriate, still makes private equity investments but now in Green Energy/Circular Economy infrastructure (where he wonders how things became so topical), still thinks he must prove his athletic status (by running the 2022 NYC Marathon), still needs guidance on how to single-parent three teenage children (16, 14 and 12), still searches for the perfect volunteer activity (although engaging in the British-America Project, Energy Garden, Hacked Off, XR and as the (outgoing) Global Rhodes National Secretary is already beyond perfect), and still thinks he would do better as a farmer (location suggestions most welcome).

1993

Shazia Azim (Pakistan & University 1993) Shazia continues to delve deeper into the world of Financial Services. After 16 years in front office Investment Banking, she moved into Consulting ten years ago, and is currently running the Financial Services consulting practice for PwC in the UK. Her specialist field is advising clients on restructuring complex assets. As the recipient of Insurance Leader of the Year in 2019 and a nomination for the 100 Women to Watch List in 2021, Shazia uses her influence to enhance the diversity of the workforce in her team of 700 people. She devotes a lot of her time mentoring the next generation of women and ethnic minorities towards financial leadership roles of the future. Outside work, she is keen on sport, theatre and her family, not necessarily always in that order though

Alan Bedford-Shaw (Zimbabwe & Exeter 1993) leads corporate development for the Standard Bank group. This has given him the opportunity to travel extensively in emerging markets and particularly to focus on opportunities in financial services on the African continent. He lives in Johannesburg, South Africa, with his wife Jen and two teenagers. In his spare time, he enjoys the outdoors, particularly birdwatching, and would always be happy to connect with like-minded visiting Scholars.



Yves Bourgeois (Maritimes & St Edmund Hall 1993) coaches hockey, and he and his wife Andreea operate a full-time chauffeur service to their four kids' hockey tournaments and

swim meets. In his spare time Yves teaches economics, works on nudges and labour market challenges through technological disruptions, and runs a university campus in his native New Brunswick. As a weekend warrior, he's helping build New Brunswick's sustainable community transportation networks and advises the federal government on matters of research and regulatory policy. In previous lives he worked on Parliament Hill and in private consulting in Canada and in Australia.



Mahmood Farooqui (India & St Peters 1993) worked as journalist, filmmaker and documentary filmmaker before achieving fame for reviving Dastangoi, the lost art of Urdu storytelling. He has travelled the world since then as performer, writer and director, including stints at the Universities of Michigan and Berkeley, and has won numerous awards for it. He has also written two celebrated books of history on the Indian uprising of 1857 and on the great Urdu writer Intezar Husain. He performs and writes out of New Delhi and India and is married to filmmaker Anusha Rizvi, the writer director of the groundbreaking Indian film *Peepli Live*.



M. Taylor Fravel (Vermont & New College 1993) After a brief stint in the management consulting world in San Francisco, Taylor pursued a PhD in Political Science at Stanford University in 1998. Since 2004, he has taught international

relations at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where his research focuses on China's foreign and defence policies. His books cover topics such as China's approach to territorial disputes and the evolution of China's military strategy since 1949. Starting in 2019, he has directed the MIT Security Studies Program, an education and research initiative devoted to policy-relevant research and training the next generation of security studies scholars. He lives with his wife Anna, daughter Lana, and dog Moose in Brookline, MA.

Antoinette Handley (Natal & St Antony's 1993) After working at the South African Institute of International Affairs in South Africa for a couple of years, Antoinette completed graduate work in comparative politics. She joined the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto in 2003, teaching and doing research on the political economy of development (Africa in particular) with a focus on business as a political actor. She returns to South Africa frequently for research and to visit family but lives with her partner, the historian Sean Hawkins, and two big feline personalities, James and Ollie, in Toronto. She serves as Professor of Political Science and Vice-Dean, Graduate in the Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto.



Mary Meaney Haynes (Texas & Merton 1993) After leaving McKinsey where she was a senior partner, leader of the Organisation practice globally and a member of McKinsey's global Board of Directors, Mary now serves on Imperial College Council and a range of corporate Boards (from Fortune 500 to hyper-growth tech unicorns). She is a Drucker Forum ambassador and supports a range of NGOs. With her husband and six children, she launched Solidarité Ukraine, and they have hosted over 500 displaced Ukrainian women and children in France. She takes every opportunity to return to Oxford where her oldest daughter, Isabelle, is finishing a Masters in IR.



Natasha Hendrick (Australia-at-Large & University 1993) is marking 30 adventurous years working in the resources industry, with travel over the years sometimes resembling Race Around the World! In 2016 she became the Chief Geophysicist for Santos, and today works as the Offshore

Development Geoscience Manager, supporting our transition to cleaner energy. In parallel, Natasha has continued her long association with Girl Guides – in 2007 she received a Churchill Fellowship for global research on volunteering, and in 2014 was elected as Vice Chair on the World Board of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Most recently Natasha has co-founded b.bold – a global organisation focused on supporting women in STEM to step boldly into leadership and help solve humanity's most pressing problems.

Emma Bermingham Lopez (Bermuda & Merton 1993) Since returning to Bermuda in 1995, Emma has built a career in the Reinsurance industry, and, with her husband of 27 years, has raised three children. Emma and her husband have been dedicated advocates for Special Education in Bermuda through support of the non-profit organisations Friends of Hope Academy and Tomorrow's Voices. Emma is currently SVP, Head of Global Client Intelligence at RenaissanceRe.



Jennifer H. Martin (New Zealand & Lady Margaret Hall 1993) has been working as a senior physician for NSW Health and Professor of Medicine at the University of Newcastle. She is incoming President of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and is focussed on the training and support of the physician workforce

and through that and her other roles in pharmaceutical policy improving health outcomes across both nations. She is attending the 120-year reunion and looks forward to catching up with Oxford classmates.



Pamela McElwee (Kansas & Wadham 1993) After completing her MSc in Forestry at Oxford and PhD at Yale, Pam has held faculty positions at Arizona State and Rutgers University, where she is currently Professor of Human Ecology. She is increasingly involved in global science-

policy assessments, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the US National Climate Assessment, and is currently co-chair of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 'nexus' assessment on the interlinkages between biodiversity, climate, food, water and health, due in 2024. She is also writing a new book on the environmental impacts of the Vietnam War based on her longstanding research there. She enjoys hiking and travels with her daughter and husband when they can get away.



Kirsten McKenzie (South Africa-at-Large & Magdalen 1993) Kirsten joined the University of Sydney in 2002 and has been Professor of History there since 2017. She teaches Australian and British imperial history and writes serious books with ripping-yarn titles like *Scandal in the Colonies* (2004), *A Swindler's*

Progress (2009/2010) and *Imperial Underworld* (2016). Kirsten is based on the shores of Sydney harbour where she enjoys 'living apart together' with inner-city museum curator and military historian Brad Manera. In consequence, she can now load and fire Short Land and India pattern flintlock muskets. After a difficult stint as Chair of Department across the pandemic she is looking forward to getting back into archives in Cape Town, London and Edinburgh.

Megan McNeill-McKinnell (Prairies & St John's 1993) Following her law degree, Megan meandered a little before completing an MSc Applied Social Studies/ Diploma Social Work through Green College, Oxford and working as a social worker in London until 2004. At that point her husband's work took the family to Ottawa, Canada and Megan moved into policy work in the federal Government where she is currently an assistant director in the department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. Megan is the mother of four kids aged 15-22 and she can't fathom where the time as gone. In her spare time, she volunteers in various capacities, embraces Ottawa winters by skiing and snow-shoeing, and is thrilled to be able to indulge her passion of travelling with her family once again.

Julie Mikuta (Louisiana & Somerville 1993) After serving on the DC Board of Education and being in leadership at various education non-profits, Julie transitioned to the field of philanthropy. She is now Co-President, Education, at the Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, where the focus is on K12 education of low-income Black and Latino students. COVID-19 has amped up the urgency of her work. She and her daughter, Damiana, a high school junior, live in Oakland, CA, where Dami is exploring college and Julie is wondering how that happened so quickly.



Justine Munro (New Zealand & Balliol 1993) Inspired by so many of her fellow Rhodes Scholars during her time at Oxford, Justine has spent the last 20 years as an innovator and changemaker in the non-profit sector in NZ & Australia, mainly in education. Now CEO of a national non-profit supporting neurodiverse young people, she and her partner Christopher Wigley love to escape to NZ's mountains and wild places as much as they can. She is most proud of her three amazing adult daughters, and is grateful for lifelong friendships with many Rhodes colleagues.



Rebecca Scott (New South Wales & Lady Margaret Hall 1993) With the significant unmet medical needs that exist today in women's health Rebecca is thrilled to be part of the executive team at Organon, a new health care spinout, focused on creating a better and healthier every day for every woman. It has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience to build a company from the ground up, launch (including bell-ringing fanfare at the NYSE) and then focus on delivering new innovative therapies and devices to improve the health of women. Together with husband Christian and their two sons, Jim and Huw, Rebecca has lived on five continents since leaving Oxford and currently calls Zurich, Switzerland home.



Daniel J. Thwaites (Commonwealth Caribbean & Campion Hall 1993) After coming down from Oxford, he returned to Jamaica, and bounced around more or less aimlessly for some years. Today he is an attorney at

Thwaites, Lundgren & D'Arcy, a law firm he co-founded in 2004, located in New York. He and his wife Sophia, along with their three magnificent sons, live in and between Westchester County, New York and Miami Beach, Florida. For many years, he was an op-ed columnist for *The Gleaner* newspaper in Jamaica, but has recently taken a hiatus to recover sanity and dignity, and to focus on building his law practice. The latter effort is going well.

Miriam Ticktin (Québec & St John's 1993) After holding positions at various universities, from Columbia University to the University of Michigan, Ticktin is now a Professor of Anthropology in the PhD Program at CUNY (City University of New York), where she writes and teaches about migration, borders and humanitarianism, and works with various groups fighting for social justice, against racism and for no-borders. She is currently finishing a book against the idea of racial innocence. She lives in Brooklyn, NY with her partner, artist Patrick Dodd, where she frequently sees friends from her Rhodes cohort.

Stadler Trengove (Paul Roos Gymnasium, Stellenbosch & New College 1993) joined the United Nations as a Legal Officer in 1998. His work has focused on peace and security, international criminal tribunals and the work of the United Nations Environment Programme. He helped set up the Special Court for Sierra Leone, a tribunal established to prosecute those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law committed in Sierra Leone. In March 2006 he assisted in the arrest and transfer of the former President of Liberia, Charles Taylor to the Court in Freetown. Mr Trengove also served as Senior Legal Adviser to the UN peacekeeping operation in Khartoum, Sudan and led the conclusion of the Agreements for the Missions in Darfur. Currently, Mr Trengove serves as Principal Legal Officer to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi.



Janice Ugaki (Idaho & St Antony's 1993) After law school, Janice was bitten by the start-up bug and co-founded a strategic digital marketing company that has been helping non-profits and professional service firms maximise their online presence and business development potential. She can't believe it's now been 23 years! Outside of work, she enjoys sitting on a wide range of publicly traded, private, and not-for-profit boards, but she finds the most joy in skiing, traveling, and spending time with her husband, Doug Greally, and her two kids, Emma (19) and Connor (16). Janice stays connected with her Rhodes friends in her role as co-president of the AARS and loves the multi-generational sense of community.



Pierre Van Hoeylandt (Germany & Magdalen 1993) After obligatory stints at Goldman and McKinsey following his DPhil in International Relations, Pierre spent two decades in and around CDC (now BII), the UK's development finance organisation (interrupted by periods setting up a private equity fund in Afghanistan in 2006-8 and running a logistics business in Nigeria in 2011-13). In 2019, he founded Natural Heritage Capital, a specialist investment firm dedicated to addressing challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and poverty by scaling nature-positive enterprises in Africa. During COVID-19, he and his wife Jasmine moved from London to Cape Town, got two dogs and, somewhat belatedly, an incredibly smiley baby boy. Time permitting, they pack everything into a 4x4 and head into the Southern African bush.

2003

Mark Abrahamson (South Africa-at-Large & Wadham 2003) Following a postdoctoral stint at Oxford's Centre for Corporate Reputation, Mark joined Oliver Wyman, the management consultancy, in 2010. He is now a Partner and leads the firm's Finance & Risk practice in the UK and South Africa. He lives in North London with his partner, Jack, who runs a corporate foundation, and their pets Molly and Jacob. Outside of work Mark still loves distance running and playing the piano (sometimes Schubert, often Showtunes) and as a perfection of middle age has developed an interest in gardening.

Mohammed K. Ali (South Africa-at-Large & New College 2003) On leaving Oxford in 2007, Mo spent four months in Hong Kong and three months in India, prior to starting a postdoc at Emory University. 15 years on, he is now the William H. Foegle Distinguished Professor of Global Health, Co-Director of the Emory Global Diabetes Research Center, a scientific advisor for CDC's Division of Diabetes, and a practising primary care physician. He has active collaborative projects in the US and several countries in Asia and Africa. He lives in Atlanta with his wife Najia and twin boys, Faiz and Abrar, who have finally found a love (but sadly limited talent) for sports.

Susan Bartlett (New Brunswick & Wadham 2003) Immediately after Oxford, Susan completed a master's degree in computer science at the University of Alberta. She researched machine learning and large language models, but mainly learned academia was not for her! Ever since, she has been working as a consultant, advising clients at the intersection of technology strategy, marketing and employee engagement. In 2021, she launched her own firm, Workomics, focused on the future of work. Susan has been married to fellow Wadham PPEist Sam Lyon since 2009; they live in Toronto with their two boys Max (age seven) and Abe (age five).



John Cameron (Zimbabwe & Jesus 2003) Having completed his DPhil, John continued on to law school and qualified as an English solicitor in 2010. After a few years in private practice in London he moved to Morgan Stanley, where he comprises 50% of the Corporate Advisory team, advising the Bank's senior management on a wide range of corporate and regulatory matters. He has continued to engage in volunteer work, helping to establish a charity doing Christian-based youth work with underprivileged children in central London, and serving for a number of years on his church council. He particularly loves to be outside in the hills or in lakes and rivers, and periodically attempts to combine both when training for or competing in Ironman races.



Sean Campbell (Illinois & Wolfson 2003) After spending nearly 15 years in institutional investment, Sean started his own consulting company in spring 2019. His company, Capital for Communities, focuses on advising innovative, community-driven approaches to impact investing, including community-owned and controlled real estate projects, community-governed small business capital programmes, and other approaches. He has worked with investors and operators throughout the United States on several successful projects and is very excited to continue to help these approaches grow. He and his wife Kate live in Brooklyn, where she is finishing up her first novel; they are looking forward to welcoming their first child in late summer.

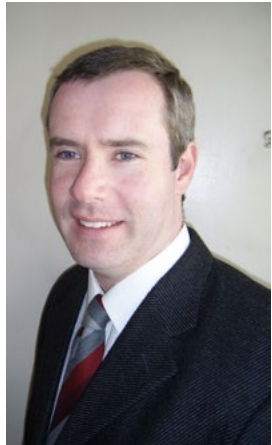


Karine Dubé (Québec & Pembroke 2003) After working in nine African countries on infectious diseases research, Karine earned her doctorate at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health in UNC Chapel Hill (2016), where she served as Assistant Professor, taught global health courses, and conducted HIV research (2017-2022). Karine is now Associate Professor at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine Division of Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health, where she leads a research programme focused on the interdisciplinary and ethical aspects of HIV cure-related research in the United States and South Africa. Karine is also Adjunct Faculty at UNC Chapel Hill and Visiting Professor at the University of California San Francisco Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. With husband Shadi Eskaf, she returns to Oxford every two years to attend the Oxford Global Health and Bioethics International Conference.

Nick Ferreira (South Africa-at-Large & Wolfson 2003) returned to South Africa to work as a law clerk to Justice Edwin Cameron at the Constitutional Court. He then joined the Johannesburg Society of Advocates where he practises with a focus on human rights, constitutional and administrative law. He lives with Lucy, Jack (ten) and Stella (eight), and has become an obsessive fly fisher, despite Johannesburg's lack of rivers and trout.

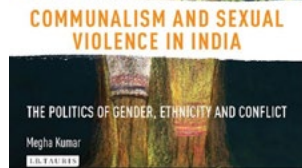
Somjen Frazer (North Carolina & Nuffield 2003)

Somjen is continuing their work leading Strength in Numbers Consulting Group, which is providing research, evaluation and philanthropic strategy to activists, service providers and grantmakers focused on LGBTQ, anti-racist, feminist and allied work. They live in Brooklyn, NY with their wife, Andrea (Andy) Bowen and five-year-old, Sissy Bowen-Frazer and would love to see any Rhodes or Oxonians passing through Fort Greene.

**Owen Horwood's**

(South Africa-at-Large & Linacre 2003) career focuses on sustainability and governance issues, enabling him to engage with a wide range of stakeholders locally and abroad. He has served as a Non-Executive Director on the Board of Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo, the municipal entity responsible for green

services and public open spaces within the city's boundaries. Previous appointments also include specialist national and provincial advisory bodies concerned with environmental legislation appeals, biodiversity and invasive species risk assessments, as well as research reviews for effective natural resource management programmes. Owen has lectured internationally at the invitation of two prominent UN University Institutes. He fondly recalls Oxford days: long walks exploring Wytham Woods with classmates and enjoyable summer picnics along the banks of the Cherwell.

**Megha Kumar** (India & Balliol 2003)

After finishing her doctoral research in 2009 on gender-based violence during ethnic conflict in India, Megha taught South Asian History at Oxford for a couple of years and pursued post-doctoral work on India's decolonisation decades as a Research

Fellow at the University of London. Her book, *Communalism and Sexual Violence: The Politics of Gender, Ethnicity and Conflict*, was published in 2016. The book ended up mobilising an intense public debate not only about interreligious violence in India but also political censorship by the country's Hindu nationalist government. She has spent the last decade at Oxford Analytica, where she is Deputy Director of Analysis. She advises major governments, multilaterals and corporations on global geopolitical risk, technological disruption and cybersecurity. In her free time, Megha combines her longstanding commitment to gender equality and her professional work on technology to help make the digital labour economy more inclusive. Her most recent paper on women's experience in the gig economy across G20 economies was published last year. She lives in London with her partner Jonah Wilberg (Balliol alumnus) and their two children.



Ankur Luthra (California & Mansfield 2003) is CEO of Catapult Homes and its product allows homeowners to buy their new home first, move once, and sell second, despite the problem of having a mortgage and illiquid equity in their present home. He started Catapult after a nearly 15-year career as an investor in tech companies. He serves on the Boards of two non-profits: The Donald Strauss Foundation and Omprakash.org (please check them out and contact him if the missions of either or both resonate with you). He and his wife, Nijee, have two children and live in San Francisco, where Nijee puts both her MD and PhD in neuroscience to good use as an attending in the surgical movement disorders team at UCSF.

Jess Melbourne-Thomas (née Trebilco)

(Tasmania & Linacre 2003) After returning to Tasmania Jess completed her PhD with the University of Tasmania (2010) and worked as a Research Scientist with the Australian Antarctic Division (2011-2019), travelling to Antarctica in 2012. She now works with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) as a transdisciplinary researcher and knowledge broker. She was named as the Tasmanian Australian of the Year in 2020. Jess lives with her husband, two daughters and assorted animals (wild and domesticated) on a ten-acre bush block on the slopes of kunanyi/Mt Wellington.



Yaa-Hemaa Obiri-Yeboah (British Columbia & St John's 2003) After Oxford, Yaa-Hemaa was recruited into the Canadian federal government through the Recruitment of Policy Leaders program into Canada's foreign ministry. After a decade in wintry Ottawa, Ontario, Yaa-Hemaa returned to British Columbia to be closer to family (and to enjoy slightly warmer climes). She maintains her Rhodes connections as the Secretary for the BC scholarship selection process. She and her husband Brian are regularly kept busy and on their toes with two toddlers (Ewurah, three and Osei-Ekow, two). She also moonlights as a jazz/soul singer-songwriter and released an EP in 2016 called *Come Hear My Voice*.



Chantal Ononaiwu (Jamaica & Wolfson 2003) is the Director, External Trade at the Caribbean Community Secretariat, where she leads the Secretariat's work on

external trade negotiations and external trade policy. Since completing her DPhil in Law, she has practised extensively in the field of international trade law and policy as a negotiator, senior advisor on international trade and investment matters, adjudicator and counsel in international trade disputes and university lecturer. Chantal is the first Diversity and Inclusion Officer of the International Law Association (ILA) and the President of the Caribbean Branch of the ILA. She and her husband, Keith, reside in Barbados with their son and daughter.

Devi Sridhar (Florida & Wolfson 2003) Devi is now a Professor at the University of Edinburgh Medical School where she leads a research team on global health and teaches medical and public health students. She worked extensively during the COVID-19 pandemic with governments in an advisory role and published her third book *Preventable: How a Pandemic Changed the World and How to Stop the Next One* with Viking/Penguin. She's working on her next book on improving public health and has also finished her Level 3 certification in personal training. She's enjoying travelling back to the States often to see family and friends and combining academic, policy and media work.

Doreen Tembo (Zambia & Wolfson 2003) joined the UK National Institute for Health Research and Care (NIHR) working as a consultant in health research methodology and leading on the active engagement and involvement of patients and community members as well as other key stakeholders in research. Doreen will be taking up the post of Head of Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement for Health Data Research UK, continuing to champion the active involvement of communities globally as equal partners in research funding and delivery.



Kyla Thomas (Commonwealth Caribbean & Trinity 2003) is Associate Professor of Public Health Medicine at the University of Bristol. Her research interests are in the Addiction field, specifically nicotine and opioid painkiller dependence. She is also Clinical Director of the

National Institute for Health and Care Research Clinical Research Network West of England, a role she has held since October 2017, and holds honorary consultant in Public Health status at South Gloucestershire Council and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities. Kyla is passionate about equity of access to research across the health and social care system and the development of research infrastructure within local authorities. She lives in a lovely market town outside Bristol, with her husband of 16 years, Stephen Clark, whom she met while studying at Trinity, and their two-year-old son Ethan, who has done an amazing job of convincing them that he should be an only child.



Zinta Zommers (Ontario & Wolfson 2003) After completing a DPhil and Junior Research Fellowship, Zinta worked with the United Nations in Kenya, Germany, and Sierra Leone, where she met her husband. Zinta is currently living in New York, working to minimise the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable, with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. She is a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Visiting Fellow at Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania. When not trying to galvanise climate action (or being frustrated by inaction), Zinta is kept busy by her two-year-old daughter.

2013



Clayton Page Aldern (Minnesota & Magdalen 2013) left Oxford to work in climate journalism, homelessness policy, and data science. Currently, he leads the data journalism program at Grist and is a research affiliate at the University of Washington's Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology.

His investigative journalism has garnered a variety of awards, including with teams that have brought in a national Edward R. Murrow Award, the Institute for Nonprofit News' Breaking Barriers Award, and multiple online journalism awards. With his UW colleague Gregg Colburn, he published the general-interest policy text *Homelessness is a Housing Problem* with UC Press in 2022. His popular-science book *The Weight of Nature*, on the relationships between climate change, neuroscience, and brain health, is forthcoming from Penguin. He is based in Seattle.



Patrick Harry Brian Bateman (Australia-at-Large & Pembroke 2013) is a partner at Hakluyt, directly advising corporate and investor leadership, around the world. Previously, he worked as a senior adviser to Theresa May, the British Prime Minister, for Sir Lynton Crosby and the Conservative Research Department through a general election, and as a management consultant with BCG. He is happily married to Kevin Karlsgodt, who left Democratic politics in the US for a successful tech start-up. While they live in London, they love travelling back each year to their other homelands, Australia and the USA. Friends in each country are Rhodes classmates, though Patrick is nervous it's his turn to cook for some in London! He'll need to learn how to turn on the stove, first.

Joy Buolamwini, PhD (Tennessee & Jesus 2013) While earning master's and PhD degrees at MIT, Joy founded the Algorithmic Justice League. Her research and advocacy are portrayed in the Emmy-Nominated documentary *Coded Bias*. She is the spokesperson for Olay's #DecodeTheBias campaign, appearing in September *Vogue*. She has written op-eds on the impact of AI for publications like *TIME Magazine*, *New York Times* and the *Atlantic*. As a poet of code, her artwork has been exhibited globally. Joy was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from Knox College in 2022. You can find her in a drum circle in Cambridge, MA ready to mingle with friends old and new. Come visit!

Louis Chambers (New Zealand & Balliol 2013) A decade ago, Louis was a legally-trained environmental activist soon to start a public policy masters and discover rowing with its 5am starts and frozen, blistered hands. He is still waking up at 5am – although the alarm these days is small children not a motivational soundtrack. A happy decade in the UK will end this year when he and his wife move to Sydney. He spends his working weeks as a leadership advisor with ghSMART, helping leaders and investors build high-performing teams who can deliver their strategies with confidence. He plans to spend the next decade practising world-class leadership advisory in Australasia and APAC, including opening ghSMART's Australia office in 2023.



Chris Heller (North Dakota & St Antony's 2013) and **Laura Pittman** (Newfoundland & St John's 2013) are living in Washington, DC. Chris left the Marine Corps and joined the technology industry, working first for an AI start-up and now for Amazon Web Services. Laura is a Partner at McKinsey & Co in their healthcare and pharmaceutical practice. They continue to travel often, both around the US and internationally, and look forward to returning to Oxford this summer for the Rhodes anniversary.



Jalnidh Kaur (India & Balliol 2013) is a doctoral candidate in Economics and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her research focuses on how parents' and teachers' beliefs influence important decisions in education with a particular focus on behavioural mechanisms and public policy. She lives in Manhattan with her husband Divjot Singh and daughter Haadra Hadur Kaur. Jalnidh and Divjot enjoy spending time in Riverside Park along with their curious and adventurous toddler.

Paul Manning (Maritimes & Magdalen 2013) Paul works as an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University, where his research programme explores the importance of insects to environmental health. He collaborates heavily with farmers and environmental organisations, to identify ways to improve the sustainability of agricultural practices. He lives in Truro with his wife Sarah and his son Ira. They enjoy volunteering in the community through various organisations, taking long walks in the park, reading, or rummaging around outdoors to look at insects and other critters. Paul continues to explore his creative interests through regular practice in painting, knitting, and illustration.

Rachel Myrick (North Carolina & St John's 2013) After completing a PhD at Stanford University in 2021, Rachel returned to North Carolina, where she is the Douglas & Ellen Lowey Assistant Professor of Political Science at Duke University. Rachel is currently working on a book about partisan polarisation and international relations theory, with application to contemporary US national security policy. She married her longtime partner Taylor Pardue in 2021 in Chapel Hill, with many Rhodies in attendance. Rachel and Taylor now live in Durham, NC with their corgi Beesly.



Kiron Neale (Commonwealth Caribbean & Linacre 2013) works in energy consultancy. He was the EiE Environmental Officer (2018) and subsequently EiE Lead Assessor (2020) at Oxford Brookes University – and also became the Data & Information Manager (2020) for Energy Solutions Oxfordshire through his work. In April of 2022, however, Kiron joined the Inenco Group as an (Energy & Carbon) Performance Analyst and made a cross-country move to Lytham St Annes. In December 2022, he was promoted to Solutions Engineer and currently leads the delivery of national and international energy, carbon, water and climate change projects for clients. At present, both Kiron and his fiancée, Carmen, call the seaside home as they live less than five minutes from the beach in Lytham St Annes.



Kameel Premhid (KwaZulu-Natal & Lady Margaret Hall 2013) Since returning to Johannesburg from Oxford in 2015, Kameel has taken up full time practice as an advocate. In that role, he has appeared in high-profile litigation including acting alone as junior counsel for the President of South Africa and advising Government through the COVID-19 pandemic. In his spare time, Kameel has become more involved in giving back: he has now taken on his third pupil, sits on many Bar Committees, and serves as the inaugural Co-Chair of the Rhodes Society & Planned Giving Campaign. When not sitting in Committee, Kameel can often be found in black tie in the Rhodes Room at Rand Club, which comes in as a distant second to the City of Dreaming Spires.

Joe (Tennessee & St John's 2013) and **Rachel** (South Carolina & Brasenose 2013) **Riley** live in Chattanooga, Tennessee with their sons Jacob (two) and Jonah (six months). After eight years in the Army culminating as Director of Indopacific Security on the National Security Council (2019-2021), Joe retired from Active Duty. He started an economy short-term rental start-up, Patriot Family Homes, which employs many Veterans and military spouses. Rachel is a Partner at McKinsey, where she applies her DPhil research on improving government decision-making to projects focused on increasing efficiency and effectiveness of government organizations across the US. The Rileys have a farm with herds of beef cattle, pigs, and goats, chickens, and a large garden to teach their boys where food comes from.

Dave Sherwood (Western Australia & Pembroke 2013) After dropping out of Oxford, Dave co-founded BibliU – a learning enablement platform enabling universities to automate their textbooks and courseware workflows and improve student outcomes. BibliU works with all major publishers including Pearson and Wiley and over 100 universities including the University of California and Imperial College London. BibliU has grown to \$21 million gross revenue per year, has raised over \$35 million in venture capital and has over one million students signed up. Dave also continues in his capacity as board member of Teach Learn Grow, a charity he cofounded which provides 10,000 hours per year of free tutoring to rural and indigenous Australians. Dave lives in London with his wife Vicky.



Edward Stace (New Zealand & Balliol 2013) After completing his DPhil in tissue engineering, Ed has worked with biotechnology and pharmaceutical clients to help bring new treatments to market in Australia, New Zealand and the United States while at McKinsey and Company. Edward married **Rachel Skokowski** (California & University 2015) in New Zealand in 2022 with Rhodies from around the world in what proved to be a fantastic post-COVID-19 reunion! Rachel and Ed currently live in Chico, California where Ed can still most likely be found out running or exploring the mountains near where they live...



Evan Szablowski (California & Keble 2013) recently transitioned out of the military after a decade in the United States Army, culminating as a Company Commander for an intelligence unit based in Vicenza, Italy. Through the blessings of the United States GI Bill, he is currently pursuing his MBA at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Evan continues to pursue passions around the intersections of innovation, technology, and national-security; this summer he is joining In-Q-Tel, a venture capital firm that invests in dual-use technology to support United States intelligence and defence needs. Outside of the career transition, Evan is soaking up the California sunshine on his road bike and enjoying wonderful downtime with his wife Kelsey and his silly jellybean (AKA one-year-old daughter) Norah.



Helen Taylor (Paul Roos Gymnasium, Stellenbosch & Balliol 2013) After her DPhil, Helen returned to South Africa to clerk for Justice Johan Froneman at the Constitutional Court (2019), where she loved grappling with how bold ideas find concrete form in

real-life cases. She then worked for the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of State Capture (2020), before pursuing further research at the South African Institute For Advanced Constitutional, Human Rights, Public and International Law (SAIFAC), based at the University of Johannesburg (2021). Helen currently leads the court monitoring programme at a new UK-based charity called Spotlight on Corruption, focusing on litigation and advocacy relating to foreign bribery, grand corruption, money laundering, asset recovery and victim compensation.



Thomas Toles (Prairies & Wadham 2013) After returning to Canada to teach film and literature at University of Winnipeg, Thomas moved to Chicago to pursue acting and comedy. He has since performed with Mission

IMPROVable National Tour Co., Laugh Out Loud, and Drunk Shakespeare Chicago. Thomas is currently pursuing a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling so he can provide individual, couple and family therapy for people who need support.

Jenny Tran (Australia-at-Large & Green Templeton 2013) After returning to Sydney to work at McKinsey as a consultant, she worked on a variety of projects in the health and public sector practice and a range of other private sector industries. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, she moved to the Paul Ramsay Foundation to lead the COVID-19 taskforce, where she led a range of initiatives to ensure that people experiencing disadvantage weren't further left behind by COVID-19, including vaccine development, Indigenous-led research and community-based relief programs. She subsequently led the Paul Ramsay Foundation's employment portfolio, and then the Insights team, that manages a portfolio of grants and supports the Foundation's data, analytics and research agenda. She and her husband, a paediatric endocrinologist, live in Sydney with their young daughter Hayley.



Andrew Trotter (Queensland & Keble 2013) After a year working in the international litigation and arbitration team at White & Case in London, Andrew was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2016. Since then, he has developed a commercial practice at Blackstone Chambers in London, with an emphasis on civil fraud and cross-border disputes raising issues of private international law.

'Mountain Waves'

A poem by **Alexander Straub** (Germany & St John's 1996)

Written on 16 March 2023 returning from the Matterhorn on a train between Visp and Bern, 'Mountain Waves' is an ode to the beauty and majesty of the Matterhorn mountain. The poem describes how the mountain resists the forces of nature and stands strong against the storms that rage around it. The poet notes how the mountain's resilience and steadfastness have made it an object of admiration and worship for many people.

The poem also acknowledges the danger and difficulty of climbing the mountain, with references to the icy glaciers and the graveyard of bodies that surround it.

However, the poet suggests that the mountain's allure lies precisely in its challenge, and in the way it beckons adventurers to attempt the ascent. Throughout the poem, the mountain is personified and anthropomorphised, as though it were a living being with a soul and a personality. This adds to the sense of reverence and awe that the mountain inspires in the poet and in those who admire it. 'Mountain Waves' is a poem about the power and beauty of nature, and about the human desire to explore and conquer the natural world. It celebrates the majesty of a mountain, and the way it inspires us to dream and to believe in the impossible.

When the clouds cover you,
When the veils of storm pass you,
in your stubborn ways you respond,
You resist to move,
You claim your spot in this world,
You resist to bow,
Adventurer might have climbed you.

Years gone by, seasons arrived and gone,
Ice and storm made you irresistible,
Impossible to concur,
A dream so far away,
Still our love for your beauty remained.

Feelings, words cannot describe,
Your evenness,
Your way to touch us softly.
Your hard body soft sidedness.
Light, wind and snow your only companion.
Years gone by, icy glacier resided

How long have you worshipped those cold gods?

Each Spring red delightful glows,
uncover your body,
make you undress in the warm lush lights of the rising sun.

Yet spring surely uncovers your secrets,
Glaciers give away a path to you.
Awakening you in our winterly dreams.

Is it a dream, an obsession?
Why do we believe you own a soul?
Why do we aim for your soft hardened body?

Just dreaming of your gorgeous sides,
Makes bodies bow to your spirits!

You don't have to give away all your secrets!
Will we ever climb your summit?
Only in adventurer dreams?

You don't have to concur!
Dead souls, pray on your sides.
The graveyard filled with bodies near you,
Gives an idea how tough you can be!

You uncover your secrets only to those,
Those who try,
Those who are embraced by your beauty!

You open a path to summit,
if wind, light and snow align,
Then your soul embraces the adventurous mind.

Yet we dream, we believe, we hope,
In the Glow of your Soft Body!

A dedication to you, beautiful world, a mountain, and my desire to reach your Summit!