



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD CHINA OFFICE PRESS RELEASE
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Launch of Kwok Scholarships for undergraduate study at Oxford University

On 13 September 2014 the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Professor Andrew Hamilton hosted an event at the Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong celebrating the launch of the new Kwok Scholarships for undergraduate study at the University funded by Dr Walter Kwok Ping Sheung JP.

The event included a briefing session on undergraduate study at Oxford, attended by more than 100 principals, guidance counsellors and students from the top local and international secondary schools in Hong Kong, and underlined Oxford's commitment to attracting the brightest students from around the world.

The new Kwok Scholarships for undergraduate study at the University of Oxford was then launched with a special ceremony with Professor Andrew Hamilton and Dr Walter Kwok. The Kwok Scholarships, covering education and living expenses, provide full funding for two exceptional undergraduate students from Hong Kong and China each year starting in October 2015. The scholarships are for students who intend to return to Hong Kong or China on completion of their studies to develop a career in public service for the benefit of the Hong Kong community and betterment of China. This award is an addition to the existing Kwok Scholarships for the Master of Public Policy Programme at Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government.

Professor Andrew Hamilton said, 'Oxford is now home to 104 students from Hong Kong (of which 60 are undergraduates) and this number has grown every year for the past four years. I am very proud that we will be able to attract many more talented students from this city, regardless of their financial background, through the Kwok Scholarships.'

He added, 'Oxford has a strong record in educating world leaders, so it offers the perfect environment for Hong Kong students to develop the skills and experience needed for a vibrant career in public service.'

The announcement further strengthens the deep connection between Oxford and Hong Kong as demonstrated by the opening of the new Dickson Poon Oxford China Centre building in Oxford, UK, which took place on 8 September 2014.

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Notes to Editors

***The University of Oxford**

The University of Oxford is consistently ranked in the top ten universities in the world and according to a recent league table is the best in the world for medicine.

Oxford has educated 26 British Prime Ministers. It has also educated at least 30 international leaders, including Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India; Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan; and former US President Bill Clinton.

Oxford has more world-leading academics than any other UK university. It also has the highest number of world-leading or internationally excellent academics in the UK (according to the 2008 national Research Assessment Exercise).

For more information, go to <http://www.ox.ac.uk/>

***The Walter Kwok Foundation**

The Walter Kwok Foundation was founded by Dr. Walter Kwok in April 2011. The objectives of the Foundation include helping the poor and the underprivileged, providing scholarships and maintenance grants for students from Hong Kong and China for the advancement of education and research on public service, government and public policy studies, global affairs, protection of the environment and wildlife and promotion of Chinese art, culture and historical heritage. Since its inception, the Foundation has made donations to charities for the underprivileged in Hong Kong, namely Ashoka, which helps the visually handicapped, the Foodlink Foundation, which helps the undernourished, and the Suicide Prevention Service.

On education, the Foundation has sponsored the scholarship programme for students from Hong Kong and China undertaking the Master of Public Policy degree at the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford since 2012. From this year, the Foundation will also be sponsoring a scholarship programme for undergraduate study at the University of Oxford on subjects related to public service including the highly popular PPE (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) programme. Since last year, the Foundation has sponsored students in the Master's Programme in Global Affairs at the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Yale University.

The Foundation aims at providing scholarship programmes for students who aims for a life-time career to serve the community and to serve for the well-being of the people of Hong Kong and China.

***The University of Oxford China Centre**

On Monday 8 September, the University of Oxford China Centre, home to Europe's largest concentration of China specialists, officially moved into the new Dickson Poon Oxford China Centre Building, with philanthropic support from donors in Hong Kong. The building provides state-of-the-art facilities to support the ground-breaking work of more than 50 academics approaching the study of China from different disciplines. The building was opened in a ceremony officiated by University Chancellor Lord Christopher Patten of Barnes, Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton, in the presence of the Prince William, Duke Cambridge and Hong Kong philanthropist, Mr Dickson Poon.



The £21 million new building has floor space of nearly 5,500 square metres over five floors, in addition to a Chinese central courtyard and garden. The Bodleian KB Chen Library, established with a gift from Mr Henry Chan from Hong Kong, provides a permanent home for 60,000 volumes and is a significant new addition to the [Bodleian Libraries'](#) Chinese book collection. It also features a 100-seater lecture theatre; a dining room, study areas, a state-of-the-art language laboratory; and a green, ecologically efficient roof terrace. There are 63 study/bedrooms for students of St Hugh's College in the same building, as well as a range of conference and seminar facilities.

See: <http://www.oxfordchina.org/the-oxford-china-centre1.html>

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