MANSFIELD COLLEGE
A HISTORY OF ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE

Mansfield College was founded in 1886 as part of a broader movement which sought to recognise the rights of those who were not members of the Anglican church to study in the University of Oxford. The College catered largely for Congregationalist students, but it provided a more general focal point for dissenters, who had long been excluded from the religious life of the University. Inclusiveness has been at the heart of the Mansfield’s identity ever since. In 1913, some sixty years before most colleges, it opened its doors to its first woman student, Constance Todd. More recently, in 1999, Mansfield set out to widen participation with its pioneering Further Education Access Initiative. The project had modest beginnings. Mansfield set up a consortium of seven Oxford colleges on whose behalf it organized visits to FE colleges and other events to encourage applications from this underrepresented group of potential students. By 2010 the consortium had expanded to include twenty-five colleges, with Mansfield running one in eight of all Oxford University outreach activities.

The revenue that the new buildings will generate will not only help to safeguard the invaluable tutorial system, but will also ensure that we are able to keep running the access initiatives which are a key part of Mansfield’s welcoming reputation.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mansfield College and its outstanding Access Initiative, without which I would not be writing this. I hope, in the future, to repay college in any way I can.

Andrew Campbell
JCR President
3rd year, Geography

WELCOME

Throughout its history Mansfield has worked hard to make an Oxford education available to previously excluded groups and it has an enviable record of encouraging students from a wide range of backgrounds to apply for admission. As a result many who might not have considered Oxford have gone on to benefit enormously from what Mansfield and the University have been able to offer.

As Mansfield celebrates its 125th anniversary we are at a pivotal point. We must transform the College’s economic fortunes to ensure we can be competitive and provide the very best for our students. The effects of the challenging economic conditions are widespread and there will be increasing financial pressure on both the College and the students in the years to come. We must act now to ensure Mansfield is prepared.

In the words of President Dwight D. Eisenhower “our real problem, then, is not our strength today; it is rather the vital necessity of action today to ensure our strength tomorrow.”

Our plans are to build an asset for the College - in the shape of two new buildings - which will greatly enhance our on-site facilities and provide a £400,000 increase in our annual income. This is a tried and tested model for Mansfield. A smaller student block which opened in 2006 now generates £200,000 per annum. Success in the endeavour will help us safeguard the tutorial system that is at the heart of Oxford’s unique education, increase our ability to provide financial assistance to our students, and transform our college environment.

We are seeking to raise £14.5m to complete this project. The following pages outline our plans and why we are seeking the support of alumni and friends to ensure they become a reality.

The greater we can make Mansfield, the greater will be our contribution to the world.

Diana Walford, Principal
Our new buildings will house facilities to rival those of any Oxford college.

In addition, the project will generate £400,000 per year additional net income from a combination of student rents and conference revenue. This annual revenue is the equivalent to the income from an additional £10 million on our permanent endowment.

Our three major projects

**EXISTING SITE PLAN**

**NEW SITE PLAN**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- 78 en-suite bedrooms (bringing the total to 139)
- A café/bar with sunken terrace
- New social spaces for students
- A glass-roofed atrium
- State of the art kitchens
- Teaching rooms for academics
- Offices for college administration

**THE LOVE LANE BUILDING**

An architecturally distinguished building to be constructed at the rear of the Fellows’ Garden, adjacent to Love Lane containing:

- 78 en-suite study bedrooms on four floors
- Flexible social spaces to be used by our undergraduates (JCR) and graduate students (MCR) during term time and conference clients during the vacations
- A suite of offices which will accommodate all our College administration

**THE ARCHITECT**

The buildings are designed by the award-winning architect, Rick Mather. His work includes The Times headquarters in London’s docklands, the Arco and Sloane-Robinson buildings at Keble College, and the much-praised Ashmolean Museum renovation.

www.rickmather.com

**AN ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Energy use will be minimized throughout the Love Lane Building by employing natural ventilation, optimizing the use of natural light in all rooms and stairways, and generating hot water with ground source heat pumps and solar panels.
THE CHAMPNEYS LINK

A new build and radical refurbishment of the east wing of the Main Building containing:

A stunning glass-roofed atrium, which will serve as a reception area, providing easy and disabled-friendly access to all parts of the east wing.

A refurbished ground floor, which will open onto a sunken terrace that will function as a refectory for students’ breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and as a café/bar at other times.

State of the art kitchens which will link to the hall, chapel, and ground floor.

QUADRANGLE RELANDSCAPING

Our main quadrangle is one of the most stunning in Oxford. Over the past 125 years it has gradually deteriorated. It will be restored to its original glory.

A new roadway will be laid, along with the introduction of additional grassed areas, disabled-friendly access, and a remodelling of those areas near the new sunken terrace and the entrance to the Champneys Link.
Doing more with less

As one of the younger Oxford Colleges, which for many years focussed on ministerial training, Mansfield is in special need of your help.

At Mansfield College we:

Offer the distinctive Oxford education in an intimate setting, which produces highly cultured individuals who occupy influential positions and impact positively on society.

Have a reputation for making Oxford accessible to the most able students irrespective of background and financial circumstance.

Have a track record of generating income through building projects.

By joining us in our efforts you will:

Help produce a highly visible asset for the College for generations to come.

Make a real difference to the future financial stability of the College.

Ensure that our vital access work continues, making Oxford's famed tutorial system available to many students who might not otherwise benefit from it.

TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF OTHERS AS IT TRANSFORMED OURS

Over the past year, as members of Mansfield College’s Development Board, we have been discussing the financial options for Mansfield. What has become clear is that, whilst the College is managing its assets and money carefully, something radical must happen in order to improve and secure its financial position in the coming years. We have looked at various options, but consistently returned to the conclusion that securing a reliable income stream from the proposed buildings is strategically the best way forward. The reality is that the income generated will be the equivalent of adding £10m to the endowment, while providing inflation protection and without taking market risk.

The College is at a crossroads and, in the face of tighter education budgets, action is essential. Mansfield needs these buildings and the income they will generate so that it can continue to provide the benefits of an Oxford education to the best students irrespective of background. Equal access has always been a key tenet of the College and we want to secure this for future generations.

Our experiences at Mansfield have inspired us to give back. Mansfield transformed our lives. We want to help to guarantee that it transforms the lives of others.

In the summer of 2010 we committed to join the College’s Capital Campaign Committee with one objective – to ensure that the capital campaign succeeds. We hope that you will join us in giving your generous support to the project.

James Hopkins (History, 1978)
Sarah Harkness (PPE, 1980)
Giles Harrison (Geography, 1986)
We are delighted to acknowledge contributions from our donors in ways befitting their generosity. The College aims to offer lasting and fitting recognition to its benefactors and build a relationship which ensures involvement in the life of Mansfield and the University.

Our focus is to understand and develop a personalised programme for each donor. For larger donations there are naming opportunities, which include both buildings and Fellowships. Significant gifts to the College are also recognised by the University with membership of the Vice Chancellor’s Circle and The Chancellor’s Court of Benefactors, inscription of names on The Clarendon Arch and the awarding of The Sheldon Medal.

The project will provide the College with:

Accommodation for all our undergraduates at £1500 per annum less than private landlord rates

On-site living for members of our visiting student programme, better integrating them into College life

Social spaces and kitchen facilities to rival any Oxford college, improving the day-to-day experience of students, academics and staff

New offices for our academics, alleviating the current need for room-sharing

A centralised office suite for all our administrative staff, introducing greater efficiency into our operations

£400,000 per annum net income from student rents and conferences, which we will use to:

- Fund student bursaries and hardship support
- Pay a large proportion of our academic salary bill, thus securing the tutorial system for future generations
- Enhance provision for academics, ensuring that we can continue to recruit and retain at the highest international level.

Being able to live on-site will save students around £1500 per year. Given the proposed government cuts to University funding and subsequent rise in tuition fees, this alone provides a compelling reason to support the new accommodation.

Tom Goodman
4th year, Physics

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CONTACT
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