Easter 2011 e-bulletin

Welcome to the Easter term e-bulletin, for all members of Wolfson College.

This term’s cohort of visiting academics has arrived for the beginning of a sunny Easter term and they are making the most of opportunities for research and socialising in Cambridge at one of the most beautiful times of year. The Lee Library is full, as our students approach exams and, for many, the culmination of their time at Wolfson. Good luck to everyone.

College Life and People

As we see in the media every day, higher education is facing huge financial uncertainties, and there is a feeling – particularly in Cambridge – that we sit at the edge of something very new. And yet, the mood in College is positive. In recent weeks we selected ten new Junior Research Fellows to take up non-stipendiary posts at Wolfson, whose areas of research range from history of architecture to cognitive neuroscience to human-computer interaction; Wolfson students this year have represented us at Varsity level in Rugby and the Women’s Blue Boat; and one of our alumni, Honorary Fellow and Singapore Finance Minister HE Tharman Shanmugaratnam (left), has been appointed Chairman of the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the IMF, a post once held by Gordon Brown. There are two admissions rounds each year for new undergraduate students and our Tutors have recently finished finding 68 new students to join us next year, including eight on the Graduate Course in Medicine. Applications will continue to be taken throughout the summer for our postgraduate places.

Communications

We are working hard on a redesigned Ring True, which will be posted to you in July this year: we aim to offer you more and better services, and to give you extra news and information about College life, both in the newsletter and on the website. We also plan to update the website on a much more regular basis, with news of events, information about Fellows’ research and articles about the lives of our students, staff and alumni. Do please be in touch to let us know what you would like to see in future.
Members' News

We would be delighted, as always, to receive members’ news for publication in the annual magazine at the end of the academic year. If you have news of achievements, events or publications to share with the rest of the Wolfson community, please send it to alumni@wolfson.cam.ac.uk by 1 July, together with any relevant photographs.

Wolfson Overseas

The President and I have recently returned from the President’s first visit to Hong Kong and Singapore, where we were very pleased to see old and new friends of the College; those who support Wolfson in its community in so many ways. Photographs will be published in July’s issue of Ring True.

In February, Wolfson Tutor Dr Kevin Greenbank gave a lecture for Wolfson alumni in Delhi, which was kindly hosted by Ms Dilnawaz Mahanti (left). The lecture was entitled ‘The Reel Raj: the film and audio collections of the Centre for South Asian Studies, Cambridge’.

In April, the President gave a paper at a History conference, La Storia in Piazza, in Genoa (left), and in the same month, Wolfson Tutor Dr Giles Yeo hosted a lively alumni dinner during a research visit to Washington DC (below), supported by local Wolfson alumnus Dr Josef Martens. It was a great success and brought together two Wolfson members who currently work together on Capitol Hill, but had not previously known about their shared Wolfson connection.

L-R: Professor Leigh Anenson (2009), Dr Giles Yeo (1994), Dr Josef Martens (1988), Dr Chris Faigle (1993), Ms Rachael Hawks, Mr Chip Abernathy (2007), Mr David Johanson (1989), Dr Mark Parascandola (1992) and Mrs Christina Parascandola. Not pictured: Ms Cynthia Paine and Ms Lori Tansey Martens
Diary Dates

USA: Seattle and San Francisco

In July, we will be on the West Coast of the United States. We are delighted that Honorary Fellow Mr William Gates Snr has offered to host an event for us in Seattle on 13 July and, on the following day, we venture to San Francisco, where alumnus Nigel Tan Fleming has generously suggested that we hold an alumni reception at his home. Invitations will be sent by email closer to the time. As always, remember to register at www.WolfsonNetwork.com to ensure that you stay in touch with your fellow Wolfson members in College and around the world.

College: Benefactors’ Reception

Invitations will be sent to all our generous donors shortly: we do hope that you will once again be free to join us for the Benefactors’ Reception prior to the College garden party on 19 June.

College: Alumni Reunion 2011

This year’s decennial and quinquennial reunion day and dinner is for those who joined Wolfson in the academic years beginning 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001. It will take place at Wolfson on Saturday 24 September, to coincide with the University’s alumni weekend, and we will be sending invitations soon. In the meantime, do please keep the date free if you are from one of the relevant year groups.

As always, news and information about all forthcoming College events can be found at www.WolfsonEvents.com.

We welcome everyone returning to College this term, and look forward to seeing you soon.

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www.WolfsonEvents.com