I’m writing this on the eve of the last Degree Congregation of this academic year. More than a dozen Wolfson students are receiving Doctoral degrees and more than four times that number are taking their Masters. We also had great success this year in Part III Maths, with seven Distinctions; and in the LLM we had two Firsts and some very near misses. Among a good set of Tripos results Yi Li turned in a spectacular performance in Part IIIB Engineering, being awarded two University Prizes, and we had Firsts in Medicine and Law. Overleaf is a photo of outstanding post-docs who will become Research Fellows of the College on 1 October. These are academic achievements of which we can be justly proud.

Monday 30 June 2008 was our forty-third birthday and we marked it with the opening of our new Alumni & Development Office, headed by Karen Stephenson. I’ve reported previously that the College is seeking to engage its membership more effectively and we have been looking at how best to plan and implement a development and fund-raising campaign. Karen’s appointment as Development Director and the creation of the new office are an important step forward.

Everyone is agreed that the high overall quality of education in Cambridge, and the outstanding creativity of research across the disciplines, owe something to the fact that the University is very decentralised in its organisation, and that full rein is given to individuals of all ages to pursue learning and scholarship. The Colleges play a significant part in this, as societies that are at once independent and part of the wider federation. The 800th Anniversary Campaign is a campaign for ‘Collegiate Cambridge’.

Wolfson makes reaching out to our diverse and international membership a priority, coupled
with measures to strengthen the College’s financial muscle. We aim to build our endowment and to increase our income from regular giving. This will help diversify our sources of funding so that we are no longer quite so dependent on income generated by current students, and it will enable us to be even more active in support of education and research. My ambitions for the College are: to have a significant number of prestigious Wolfson Studentships and stipendiary Research Fellowships, awarded on merit; a huge expansion of our Bursary provision – at both graduate and undergraduate levels – for academically outstanding students who have been offered a place, but would otherwise not be able to come to Cambridge; the continuing enhancement of our facilities – our library and IT provision, the quality of our accommodation, and the maintenance of our buildings and gardens; and, last but not least, to encourage our social and intellectual life in College – in music, culture and sport.

We are fortunate in a rich inheritance from the University, the other Colleges, the Wolfson Foundation, Dr Lee Seng Tee, and many other individuals and organisations. However, we need to build on the enterprise of our founders and benefactors. We are now launching an Annual Fund, which gives our members and friends an opportunity to contribute to the College regularly (details enclosed). Income from the Fund will be used to support current activity, and will play an essential role in fostering the unique experience which a Cambridge College provides. We also need to increase our endowment: more endowment income will stabilise our economy and help us to plan for the future. This will make an enormous difference to Wolfson.

We enter our forty-fourth year having achieved a great deal. We look forward, therefore, to keeping in touch with you, and hearing from you, and seeing more of you in Wolfson; and to have the Wolfson community take pride in its achievements and to sustain it in the future.

Alan O’Leary (O’May Scholar 2001–2004) with the President before receiving his PhD degree, 19 July 2008; Dr O’Leary is Lecturer in Italian at the University of Leeds

Graduations 2008

Clockwise from top left:

Yi Li, winner of the Royal Aeronautical Society Prize in Engineering, the Moriien Morgan Prize, and a College Jennings Prize, flanked by the President and Lovelace Soirez at the Reception in the President’s Lodge Garden before General Admission, 28 June 2008

Six of our LLM students on the Senate House lawn after receiving their degrees, 28 June – l to r: John Di Paolo, Najeeb Huda, Robert O’Driscoll, Asad Kyani, winner of a College Jennings Prize, Floris De Witte, winner of a College Jennings Prize and the Hugh Bevan Prize, and Mohammad Aslam

Matthew Woolhouse and family, with the President and Dr Ian Cross, on the Senate House lawn after conferment of his PhD Degree on 10 May 2008

Daniel Edmonds, winner of a College Jennings Prize and the Sir David Williams Prize, with the President outside the Senate House after receiving his BA degree, 28 June 2008. Daniel is going to Harvard Law School as a Kennedy Scholar in 2008–09
**New Fellows**

The College welcomes the following new Fellows:

**Dr James Farwell Coakley**

Dr James Farwell Coakley comes to us immediately from Harvard to work on the Syriac manuscripts in the University Library and to teach Syriac in the Faculties of Divinity and Middle East and Asian Studies. Known as ‘Chip’ he has degrees from Harvard and Cambridge, and is a printer and the proprietor of Jericho Press.

**Professor Gordon Dougan**

Gordon Dougan is Head of Pathogen Research at the Sanger Institute, Hinxton and an Honorary Professor at the Cambridge Vet School. His research interests are the genomics of microbes that cause disease and vaccine development. Gordon contributes to international efforts to deliver vaccines to developing countries as a Trustee of the International Vaccine Institute based in South Korea.

**Dr Viji Draviam**

Viji Draviam is a Cancer Research UK Research Fellow at the Department of Genetics. She received her PhD from Trinity College, Cambridge and trained as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School and MIT. Her research has identified several proteins and their role in controlling human cell division. By extracting information on cell division control, her laboratory aims to tackle aggressive cancers that display cell division defects.

**Dr Kate Maxwell**

Kate Maxwell is Secretary of the Board of Graduate Studies and Head of Graduate Administration for the University. After completing her PhD at Newcastle she came to Cambridge on a Royal Society Fellowship to work in the Department of Plant Sciences and transferred to Administration in 2005. A keen squash player, runner and cyclist, Kate’s passion is her vegetable garden.

**Karen Stephenson**

As Wolfson’s first Development Director, Karen heads up the new Alumni & Development office. Prior to becoming a Fellow of the College, she spent ten years working for an investment bank in London. After completing a BA in English as a mature undergraduate at Lucy Cavendish and a PGCE at Homerton, she taught for several years at Cambridgeshire comprehensive schools. She has been Assistant Development Director at St Catharine’s for the last five years.

**New Research Fellows**

New Research Fellows who will start in Michaelmas 2008, at a reception held by the President and Mrs Johnson in early June.

Left to right:

Mr Eric Yu-En Lu
Dr Isabel DiVanna
Dr David Gange
Dr Virginia Newcombe
Dr Gregoire Pau
Mr Daniel Graf von der Schulenburg
Dr Maria Okumura Martinez
Dr Gertrude (Truus) Abbink
Miss Rhîannan Williams
Dr Lucas Goehring
Dr Dagmar Harzheim
Dr Max Garagnani
Dr Mamta Thangaraj
Dr Niketas Siniossoglou (not present)
President’s Cup Cricket Match

On the last Sunday in June, in cloudy but dry conditions, the experience of the President’s XI, captained by the Bursar, took on the youth of the Student cricket team, led by guest captain and recent student Dr Daniel Dawson (2001) in the absence of their regular captain Luke Barnes (2006), and supported by the team’s vice-captain, Chemistry PhD student David Gunn (2005).

The President’s team graciously allowed the students to score at a lively rate, who reached an impressive total of 161 off their 20 overs, including a 32 from opener Imram Aslam (2007) and a hard-struck 50 not out by MBA student Praveen Hemraj (2007) which included seven fours and three sixes. In reply, Fellow Professor Nicholas Wareham and Bursar Christopher Lawrence put on a solid opening partnership of 43 against a swift bowling attack from all-rounder Hemraj and Karan Gokani (2005), fresh from his BA graduation ceremony in the Senate House the previous day. Professor Wareham went on to make an impressive 50 not out before being retired, and the President’s XI fell eight runs short with a total of 153, with the trophy once again retained by the Students. The President’s XI looks forward to making a sterner challenge next year in the return match on Sunday 28 June 2009.

Long live Wolfson FC

15-0! That was newly promoted Wolfson FC’s first victory over Robinson/Selwyn FC in its first match in the MCR 1st division league. The unbeaten run continued throughout the season including a deserved I–I draw with Jesus FC to whom Wolfson FC ended up as runners-up. 42 goals, 7 wins, 2 draws and 0 losses: an excellent league season had come to an end.

The unbeaten run continued in the MCR Cup group stages with 3 wins and 1 draw to finish as group winners. The quarter final was a nervy affair against Clare/Fitz and was decided on the dreaded penalties but never fear, fine saves from Gomez and coolness from our penalty takers saw WFC win through 3–1. Alas, the semi-final against Queens FC proved a game too far for the boys as they succumbed to their first and only defeat of the season in a tough game which ended 4-0.

Wolfson Boat Club

The Wolfson 2nd Men’s VIII gained its oars in the May Bumps by bumping Corpus Christi II, Caius III, Trinity Hall III and Clare III on consecutive days. The victorious crew, which had also had a good Lent Bumps, missing out narrowly on gaining its oars on that occasion, comprised (from bow to stroke): Kunal Vyas, Patrick Vogl, Daniel Murrell, Jurgen Van Gael, Christian Popp, Richard Bourgon, Ivaldo Zhekov, Juanma Vaquerizas, with Cox Eric Chiang and coaches Jason Brown and Michael Gardner.
**Music**

The activities of the Wolfson College Music Society centre around the Wolfson College Choir, the Music and Madeira evenings, and the Lunchtime Concerts.

Recent highlights were the visit of the Italian choir *Amici in Musica* in the Lent term who joined the Wolfson Choir for a performance of Fauré’s *Requiem*. In return the College Choir embarked on a five-day tour of Rome, in June reuniting with *Amici in Musica* to sing Mozart’s *Coronation Mass* and Vivaldi’s *Gloria*. The choir also shared the spotlight with the *University Brass Band* in a lighter selection of pieces at the Wolfson College Garden Party, which ended the official Society programme for the academic year. Later that day the world-class *Klenke* quartet made their British debut at Wolfson.

The activities of the Wolfson College Music Society centre around the Wolfson College Choir, the Music and Madeira evenings, and the Lunchtime Concerts.

The Lunchtime Concert series hosts talent from within and outside the college and was closed by Wolfson Fellows Claudia Fritz and Ian Cross playing a lively set of dances for flute and guitar in a stylish performance.

**Ballroom Dancing**

Ballroom dancing has a long tradition in the College and continues to be ever popular, attracting many new members and visitors every year. Lessons are held in the spacious Lee Hall but even so, the floor tends to get crowded, especially in the first term until serious academic work leaves less time for such pursuits.

Our talented young teacher, Rachel Glen, is very dedicated and skilfully coaches beginners through each of the dances, guiding them along step by step and demonstrating all the different movements, tempos and techniques. It is remarkable how quickly many who have never danced before learn to move correctly, even gracefully, including those from very different cultures who are launched into unfamiliar Western dance styles and rhythms.

Wolfson has had some fine dancers over the years. Among the best gracing us at present are Felicia Yap, who is on the Varsity Team and was seen recently giving demos at the June event, and Oksana Trushkevych. Oksana organized our first ever team for the inter-collegiate match at ‘Cuppers’ held in the Lee Hall and led us into the final round with a dazzling cha cha routine.

Ballroom and other forms of dancing have proved so enduringly popular because they serve a valuable social function, not least in an international College like Wolfson. Besides being great fun and good for body and mind, dancing helps newcomers to make friends and communicate across cultural, linguistic and age barriers. Many members take the joy of dancing with them when they leave Wolfson.
Alumni Matters

Alumni and other non-resident College Members are always welcome at Wolfson. With the establishment of our Alumni & Development office, we have made some enhancements to Members’ privileges.

You may come to lunch and Formal Hall whenever you wish and bring up to three guests to dine on any occasion; it may be possible to bring more, but do please check in advance at alumni@wolfson.cam.ac.uk.

Formal Halls during term time will be held on Tuesday and Friday evenings, and on Tuesdays out of Full Term. College Guest Night – a more elaborate meal with a set seating plan – is held twice-terminly. If you wish to make a weekend visit, guest rooms in College are often available; contact Mrs Marilyn Motley at accommodation@wolfson.cam.ac.uk. As well as booking guest rooms, you may also wish to utilise Wolfson’s excellent conference facilities.

We are also introducing a decennial reunion event this September to which we are inviting all those who joined us in a year ending in 8; the pattern will continue so that in 2009 we invite all those from the 9 years, and in 2010 those from the zeros. Dates for the next two years are 26 September 2009 and 25 September 2010.

There are many events taking place throughout the year and we aim to publicise these as widely as possible. The online calendar with full details, at www.wolfson.cam.ac.uk/events, will help you keep up to date with the range of activities in College.

We are keen to stay in touch with everyone, and a list of Alumni and non-resident Members for whom we have no postal or email address is included. If you have contact details for anyone listed, do please let us know. We are delighted to welcome our Members to College at any time and look forward to meeting many of you during the forthcoming year.

Events in Michaelmas 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26–28 September</td>
<td>Cambridge University Alumni Weekend, throughout Cambridge (see <a href="http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk">www.foundation.cam.ac.uk</a> for the programme)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 September</td>
<td>The first annual Wolfson College Decennial Reunion Day and Dinner, for all those who joined the College during the academic years beginning 1968, 1978, 1988 and 1998. Invitations were sent at the end of July: if you have not received yours, please contact us at <a href="mailto:alumni@wolfson.cam.ac.uk">alumni@wolfson.cam.ac.uk</a> or +44(0)1223 335922. Dates for the next two years are 26 September 2009 and 25 September 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 November</td>
<td>Formal Hall for Medics and Vets</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 November</td>
<td>Music &amp; Madeira: Formal Hall followed by a recital by Andrew Kennedy (tenor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 November</td>
<td>Law Formal Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 November</td>
<td>First Guest Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 December</td>
<td>Computer Science Formal Hall</td>
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<td>5 December</td>
<td>Boat Club Fairbairns Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Second Guest Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>Festive Formal Hall</td>
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Privileges at a Glance

- Reunion dinner each September to mark ten year anniversaries
- Regular concerts, lectures and events listed at www.wolfson.cam.ac.uk/events
- Unlimited Formal Hall dining £23 per meal, with up to three guests
- Formal Hall Tuesdays and Fridays during Full Term; Tuesdays out of Full Term
- Guest Night twice-terminly £40 per meal, with up to three guests
- Guest rooms in College £52 double, £30 single
- Conference facilities
- CAM discount card available from the University Development Office at www.foundation.cam.ac.uk/benefits

We thank members of the College for their contributions and their photographs.