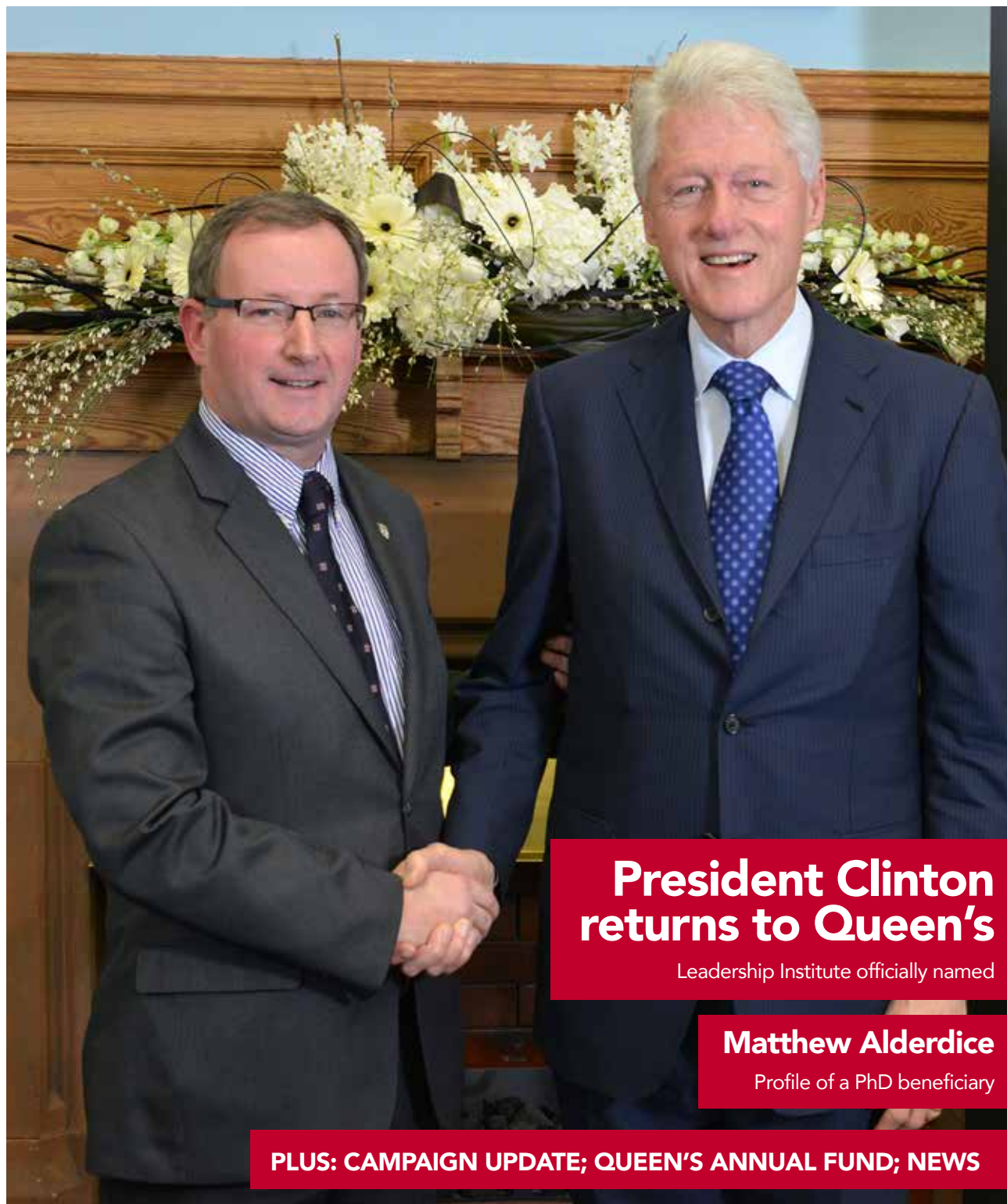


# Queen's Donor Newsletter

News from The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation

Review of 2014



## President Clinton returns to Queen's

Leadership Institute officially named

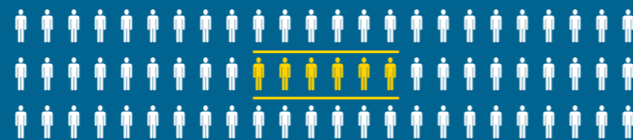
### Matthew Alderdice

Profile of a PhD beneficiary

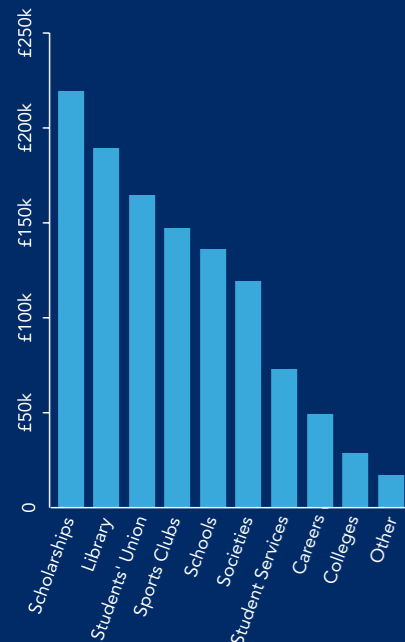
**PLUS: CAMPAIGN UPDATE; QUEEN'S ANNUAL FUND; NEWS**

# DID YOU KNOW?

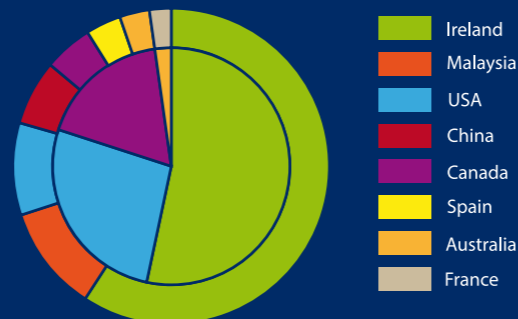
1 in 12 Northern Ireland adults\* is a Queen's graduate?  
(\*over the age of 22)



Queen's Annual Fund project funding since launch



## Major graduate populations outside of the UK



Outer circle represents total alumni populations, Inner circle represents those alumni who made a gift in 2013-14

- There are more male donors than female, even though there are more female alumnae
- A higher proportion of graduates in Canada have donated than those in other countries

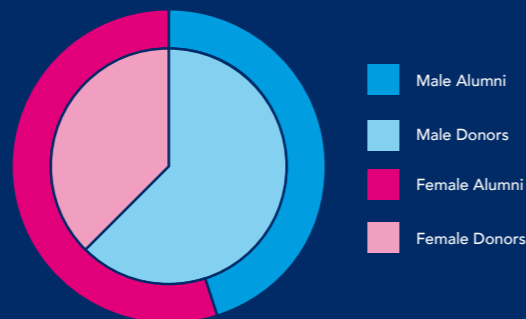
## £28/month

= the average alumni gift (2013-14)

## £90,000

= financial value of alumni volunteering (2013-14)

## Gender Breakdown 2013/14



FSC  
LOGO  
HERE

The magazine is available online for those who prefer to read larger font size. Go to [www.qub.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.qub.ac.uk/alumni) and follow the link via Publications

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**Design:** darraghneely.com

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While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of printed information, readers should be aware that this magazine is not an official publication. Any views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the University or the editorial team.

Cover: Vice-Chancellor Professor Patrick G Johnston welcomes President Clinton back to Queen's (see p8)

Enclosed with this issue of the *Donor Newsletter* is a special 10-year edition of *The Lanyon Society Newsletter*, the University's legacy giving publication.

## Contents

- 4-7 News – A round-up of developments
- 8-9 Inspired to Succeed – Presidential visit
- 10-11 Campaign Report – Medicine gets the donor treatment
- 12-14 Annual Fund – answering the call
- 15 Scholarships – inspiring the next generation
- 16-17 Laughing matters – Seán Crummey's legacy
- 18-19 Volunteering – doing more than you have to
- 20-22 Open for business – Queen's corporate partners
- 23 Beneficiaries' gallery

## Team changes



### Rachel Ketola

Fundraising Manager (Medicine)

Rachel joined Queen's after five years as a Relationship Manager at Alzheimer's Society in London. Prior to this she held positions at International Childcare Trust and the Brain and Spine Foundation.

Rachel's role will be to raise funds for the development of the Institute of Health Sciences by engaging with alumni and friends of Queen's and enabling them to support the University through high level philanthropic gifts. Contact Rachel at [r.ketola@qub.ac.uk](mailto:r.ketola@qub.ac.uk)



### Gerry Power

Communications Officer

Having served as Alumni Officer for over 20 years, Gerry changed roles becoming Communications Officer in 2012. In 2014 he took over responsibility for the communications output of the Development and Alumni Relations

Office. Among other duties he is currently editor of *The Graduate*, the University's annual alumni magazine, and the *eGraduate*, which is issued seven times a year. Contact Gerry at [g.power@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.power@qub.ac.uk)



### Meaghan Lyons

Alumni Officer

Meaghan joined the Development and Alumni Relations team as Alumni Officer in 2012 and leads the way on all Queen's alumni volunteering programmes, including graduate associations and chapters, career and global mentoring

programmes, and a variety of other ways for alumni and supporters to donate their time, skills and knowledge. Contact Meaghan at [m.lyons@qub.ac.uk](mailto:m.lyons@qub.ac.uk) to find out how you can get involved.

## Welcome



Welcome to the latest edition of the *Donor Newsletter*, the magazine which showcases the extraordinary impact your philanthropy

and support has on this University and its students.

Every gift you make touches at least one person's life and more often than not, the lives of many. At a time of pending third level education cuts, and as Queen's is facing increased pressure on its funding sources, your gifts – of time and money – are increasingly important.

Donor support enables us to offer the brightest scholars the chance to study here and to reach their full potential. Gifts of time are the backbone of our graduate volunteering scheme, sharing experiences across the generations. Financial contributions facilitate life-changing research in a huge number of areas, from astrophysics to medicine and from food safety to engineering. And your philanthropy makes it possible for us to recruit the best teaching staff from around the world.

I am delighted every time I see the results of gifts in action – and I know I am not alone in offering my gratitude for your commitment to the University and everything it represents.

In the pages of this magazine, you can read how your contributions are making a real difference and changing lives every day. On behalf of our staff and students, thank you for your continuing support.

With my sincere thanks.

Professor Patrick G Johnston  
President and Vice-Chancellor

# News

## Support for the new School of Law

Lord Kerr of Tonaghmore was guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick G Johnston and Head of School Professor Sally Wheeler in October.

Held in the Isdell Courtyard in Riddell Hall, over 100 guests were given details of the new School, which will open in 2016 in the former library tower on the main campus.

Among those present to hear the exciting plans were Lord Trimble of Lisnagarvey, a graduate and former member of staff at Queen's, and The Rt Hon. the Lord Hutton PC, QC Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland from 1988-1997. Also attending were members of the local legal profession, staff from the School of Law and a number of Law City Scholars (students who have undertaken international work experience in top legal companies around the world), who were on hand to welcome guests.

Ranked as one of the top law schools in the UK, Queen's has provided a unique learning experience for

thousands of students through the provision of exceptional teaching and research for over 160 years.

During the evening, guests were asked to support the School's vision through advocacy, time and philanthropy. Opportunities to support the project will include funding scholarships and bursaries, and naming rooms and other bespoke spaces in the building.



Queen's Young City Leaders at the Riddell Hall event

*Lord Kerr is a Justice of the UK Supreme Court and former Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland. He was educated at St Colman's College, Newry and at Queen's, where he received an LLB in 1969, an honorary degree in 2009 for distinction in public service and the legal profession, and, in 2012, the 'Graduate of the Year' Award.*

## Michael West Fellow takes up post



In October 2014 Ernst de Mooij took up post as the Michael West Fellow in the Astrophysics Research Centre (ARC) in the School of Mathematics and Physics at Queen's.

The Fellowship, funded by Dr Michael and Mrs Ruth West, allows ARC to attract high calibre researchers and to progress its ground-breaking work in astronomy, engineering, physics and maths.

The Michael West Fellow works on activities related to the Public Understanding of Science (PUS) – giving public lectures, writing popular articles and promoting STEM subjects in Northern Ireland schools.

During his PhD at the Leiden University in the Netherlands, Ernst

worked with Professor Ignas Snellen on detecting the atmospheres of planets orbiting other stars.

He published the first ground-based detection of light from the atmosphere of a hot-Jupiter. After obtaining his PhD in 2011 he moved to the University of Toronto to work as a postdoctoral fellow in the group of Professor R Jayawardhana, focusing on exoplanet atmospheres. As the Michael West Fellow he will continue to explore the diversity of planets in our Universe.

# News

## The Raymond Flannery Prize

The Raymond Flannery Prize was established in 2011 and is awarded annually to the MSci graduate in the School of Mathematics and Physics with the best overall mark. This year's winner is Andrew Swann who told the *Donor Newsletter*: "It is a great privilege to have received the Raymond Flannery Prize, as it upholds the legacy of a very distinguished physicist. The award made for a highly satisfying conclusion to my four years of undergraduate study

at Queen's and helped give me the confidence to do research in atomic physics at PhD level.

"I am very grateful for the instruction and support I was given from lecturers throughout my degree. Without this I could not have hoped to achieve such a prestigious award."

Sadly, Raymond passed away in May 2013. He is survived by his second wife Jean and his five children.



Andrew receives the Raymond Flannery Prize from Dr Gleb Gribakin from the School of Maths and Physics

## Travel bursaries

For Viv Harty and Ernie Telford, setting up travel bursaries for current law students was a way to support their alma mater and an opportunity to recognise the direct impact the University has on their business.

"Ernie and I felt motivated to set up these bursaries as a way to 'give something back'. The firm has employed nearly 20 trainee solicitors over the last few years, the majority of which are graduates of Queen's," said Viv, LLB 1984.

"I was particularly impressed by those who had a chance to study a joint degree such as Law and French, Law and Spanish and so on.

Their personal resources are further stretched insofar as they have to live abroad for up to a year. In the circumstances, and whilst we were keen to provide funds to Queen's, it seemed that travel bursaries were most relevant."

Senior partners in Belfast firm McCartan Turkington Breen, neither Viv nor Ernie received financial awards during their student days, though Viv did point out that he successfully captained the winning team in the 1984 Law Society five-a-side competition!

Two bursaries of £1,000 will be awarded annually to the two students

who achieve the highest overall marks in Level 2 of the Law with a language degree to support their Year 3 placement abroad.

"We hope the bursaries will lessen the financial impact of living abroad. As Queen's graduates we feel it is important to support student education particularly in these straitened times. All graduates of Queen's (especially those who were students in the halcyon days of free education) should seriously consider giving something back."



Viv Harty (left) with fellow Queen's graduate and business partner Ernie Telford

## News

### Pursuing the educational dream



In February 2014 Mrs Joyce Magill donated \$50,000 in memory of her late husband Dr Joseph Magill.

Awarded a Foundation Scholarship in 1951 and 1952, Joseph Magill was a graduate of Queen's three times over earning a BSc and a PhD in the 1950s and a DSc (1990) from the University. He had a distinguished career during which he lectured across the world and contributed to over 200 books, papers and patents. He won several prestigious research awards including the Alexander Von Humboldt Senior Research Award at Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research, University of Mainz, Germany. In later years he served the United States in their Office of Naval Research in London.

Speaking to the *Donor Newsletter*, Mrs Joyce Magill said: "On behalf of my family I am delighted to donate this scholarship in memory of my husband. The education that Joseph received at Queen's was the foundation to his long and successful career. His lifelong pursuit and love for learning blessed us with many opportunities and my hope is that this scholarship will help provide someone else with the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams."

The gift, accepted on behalf of the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering by Professor Chris Hardacre, will support a 3-year PhD studentship named in honour of Joseph Magill, to develop a piece of high quality research in the area of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.

### A life – and legacy – in plastics

Francis Maxwell Rainey, who died in October 2010, left behind a strong forward-thinking and ambitious company – Denroy Plastics – which embodies his guiding principles. Max



was born in Belfast in 1921 when the city was one of the most important industrial centres in the world. He saw his future in engineering and, in his father's footsteps, joined James Mackie and Sons Ltd as an apprentice fitter. Progressing through the drawing office, Max took charge of the nose section of the Stirling bomber during the Second World War, bringing him into contact with plastics for the first time.

Fast-forward 20 years and after several mergers and corporate rescues in the 1960s and 70s, a new plastics company was established by Max and son John with Billy Martin of Martin Plastics Ltd.

At the heart of Denroy's philosophy is the need for continuous improvement not only through capital investment, but ensuring that its people have

access to the best education and training. The company has an enviable reputation for attracting and retaining high calibre employees across all its departments and is proud of the close working relationship it has developed with local colleges and universities.

The annual Max Rainey Prize established in his memory recognises outstanding achievement in the field of polymers and is a fitting tribute to a genuine local entrepreneur and innovator. Worth £1,000 it is offered to the Stage 3 or 4 student on the undergraduate Mechanical, Aerospace and Product Design Engineering pathways who achieves the highest mark in their individual research project on a topic related to the design and manufacture of polymer products or the development of polymer materials.

## News

### Pennyroyal Caxton Bible – a unique gift

Thanks to the generosity of Bruce and Suzie Kovner, Queen's acquired a two-volume limited edition Pennyroyal Caxton Bible in August.

A King James Version of the Holy Bible, it is illustrated with over 230 drawings by Barry Moser, the foremost American master of wood engravings. It is the first such illustrated Bible since Gustave Doré's Le Saint Bible in 1865.

Published by the Pennyroyal Caxton Press in 1999, it is one of 400 printed copies taking a total of three years to complete. Beautifully bound, volume one contains the five books of Moses, the historical books and the books

of poetry, while the second contains the books of prophecy and the New Testament. The bindings are full limp vellum with the title stamped in 24-carat gold on the cover and spine. Each signature was folded by hand and sewn on vellum tapes.

Deirdre Wildy, Head of Special Collections and Archives at the McClay Library at Queen's, was delighted to accept the gift on behalf of the University, saying: "It is a real asset to our collection and has many features which will be of interest not only to academics and students but to visitors to Queen's and the wider Northern Ireland community."



### Saying 'Thanks'

Over 100 of the University's most generous benefactors and living legators came together as part of the Donor 'Thank You' Day in June. The annual occasion celebrates the University's most loyal donors and gives those present an opportunity to hear first-hand where their gifts have been used.

Before formalities got underway, guests were shown a specially commissioned four-minute video featuring students and academic staff who had benefited directly from donor philanthropy in the past year.

In addressing guests Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Tony Gallagher recognised the importance of ongoing support in enabling the University to reach its goals. He outlined the progress of the Queen's 'Beyond' Campaign, which has already raised over £110m towards its £140m target, and shared some of the University's recent success stories.

Mark Simpson (BA History and Politics 1989) then chaired a panel discussion

on the impact of philanthropy. Among those taking part were Leslie Morrison (Patron of The Lanyon Society), Rosemary Carson (travel award funder in the School of Nursing and Midwifery), Professor Joe O'Sullivan (Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology) and LLM

student Christopher Mallon, a James MacQuitty Law Scholar.

The day was rounded off with afternoon tea in the Great Hall when guests had a further opportunity to catch up with old friends.



Panelists (L-R) Professor Joe O'Sullivan, Rosemary Carson, Mark Simpson (Chair), Leslie Morrison and Christopher Mallon

# Inspired to Succeed

The third visit of President Bill Clinton to Queen's in March marked the highlight of his whirlwind trip to Northern Ireland and was a major success for the University and the Queen's Foundation.



It was a standout evening in a remarkable fundraising year, says Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Norma Sinte.

The 42nd President of the United States officially named the William J Clinton Leadership Institute at Riddell Hall and, to a packed Isdell Courtyard and a standing ovation, delivered the inaugural Leadership Lecture which carries his name.

The spring visit by President Clinton

was a landmark event for Northern Ireland, a momentous occasion for Queen's and a proud moment for the University's new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston.

President Clinton last visited Queen's in 2001 when he received an Honorary Degree from the University. Delighted to be returning the President said: "I have long tried to support economic development in Northern Ireland and believe preparing young leaders is essential to long-term prosperity. So I am happy to be associated with this Institute."

Hosting the Queen's Foundation event was Professor Patrick Johnston, who had just taken up post as President and Vice-Chancellor of the University. Welcoming President Clinton, Professor Johnston said: "We

are honoured that President Clinton has given his name to our Leadership Institute and are delighted that he has joined us in person to set the seal on that partnership.

"Once again he is demonstrating his belief in Northern Ireland and its people, as he has done with such dedication and commitment in the recent past. Now he is giving his support to an Institute that will provide our community with the leaders of the future, in business and in public life.

"The William J Clinton Leadership Institute symbolises our purpose: to create positive change in our society, to provide opportunity for individuals, organisations and institutions to grow and, in his words, helping to build creative networks of co-operation."



Bringing together world-class facilities, notable academics and industry experts the Institute, which is based at Riddell Hall, delivers a high-end portfolio of executive education and leadership programmes. Situated in a secluded, eleven-acre parkland site in South Belfast, it is an exceptional resource, in a perfect location for business heads to come together and learn, and for events showcasing Queen's contribution to the Northern Ireland economy.

Places at the exclusive evening were eagerly sought after by local companies and generous benefactors keen to support the University and dine with the President. With music by the Scott Flanigan Trio and Scala Strings, and an exquisite menu of Northern Ireland produce it was an occasion to remember. Proceeds from the evening enabled the establishment of a fund to support an annual William J Clinton Leadership Lecture.

Speaking ahead of the event the Chairman of the Queen's Foundation, Mr Tom Lynch, said: "We are privileged that President Clinton will deliver the inaugural Leadership Lecture named after

him. As an Honorary Graduate of this University he is very much a member of the Queen's family.

"The Foundation plays a vital role in securing philanthropic investment to help implement the University's bold and imaginative plans. Over the past 10 years, generous giving has transformed the academic life – and face – of the campus and enriched the student experience."

***"I have long tried to support economic development in Northern Ireland and believe preparing young leaders is essential to long-term prosperity"***

The Director of the new Institute, Anne Clydesdale said: "At Queen's, it is our mission to be innovative educators, to engage in research

of global significance and to be a stimulus of growth in Northern Ireland. To be associated with President Clinton who, during his Presidency, was viewed as a powerhouse of the political world, can only help the Institute achieve its goals of meeting the needs of local and global business."

Queen's Foundation, members of the Riddell Hall Founders' Club and others from the corporate sector contributed more than half of the £3.5m needed to create the Riddell Hall campus. In doing so, they recognised the key role that the University is playing in the development of a sustainable and competitive local economy.

Proclaiming the maxim *Inspired to Dream; Inspired to Succeed* the William J Clinton Leadership Institute will play its part through the exchange of expertise, advocacy and thinking. In doing so it will contribute to Northern Ireland's success and become a part of Queen's influential network at home and abroad.

For more information on Riddell Hall Founders' Club please contact Jacqui McCormick, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5378 or email [j.w.mccormick@qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.w.mccormick@qub.ac.uk)



Riddell Hall, home to the William J Clinton Leadership Institute

# Medicine gets the donor treatment

## Changing lives

Supporters of the University's medical fundraising campaign gathered for their first donor 'thank you' evening in early December when they heard from staff and students of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences. Hosted by Professor Stuart Elborn, Dean of the School, it was an opportunity to find out how gifts to support medical research and medical education are changing lives.

After a welcome from Helen Surgenor, Head of Medical Fundraising, Professor Elborn outlined how the School was training the next generation of doctors, dentists and scientists and supporting key disease research areas. He flagged up University advances in eye disease and cystic fibrosis treatment as two key areas where Queen's was impacting directly on the quality of patients' lives on a daily basis.

Queen's Medical Fund was launched in 2012 and has raised over £18k to date to support summer students in medical education and biomedical sciences and the Hardship Fund. In addition, six PhD students funded through philanthropic gifts to Queen's are now working in cancer research at the University.

Professor Pascal McKeown, Director of the Centre for Medical Education outlined how the Medical Fund was benefiting the School's 2,000 undergraduate students through providing them with the opportunities to develop key transferable skills such as leadership, management and entrepreneurship and giving insights into working in a research environment.

The highlight of the evening was the presentations by two current students, beneficiaries of gifts to the School. Second year student, Helen Monaghan, spoke about her blood cancer-focused Summer Studentship during which she investigated proteins in Myeloid Leukaemia. Matthew Alderdice, a PhD student funded by the family of the late Seán Crummey, then talked about his research into alternative treatments for colorectal cancer.

The event culminated in the dispersal of £7,500 to the Centre for Medical Education and Centre for Biomedical Sciences for summer scholarships and to the Hardship Fund.

The evening also resulted in £3,000 in gifts for the medical campaign.



Helen Surgenor (left) with Robin and Adrienne Cockram (donors to the medical campaign) and Dr Kienan Savage (right), breast cancer researcher in CCRCB

## Bowel cancer breakthrough



Researchers at Queen's have made a significant discovery that could benefit thousands of patients with bowel cancer.

A team led by Dr Sandra Van Schaeybroeck from the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB), has discovered how two genes result in bowel cancer cells becoming resistant to treatments used against the disease.

The research, which was funded by Cancer Research UK, was published in the prestigious international journal *Cell Reports* last July.

The activity of the two genes – MEK and MET – was uncovered when the researchers looked at all the different pathways and interactions taking place in bowel cancer cells. The team is now testing a new approach to target the genes in the most aggressive forms of bowel cancer in a European Commission-funded clinical trial led by Dr Van Schaeybroeck.

Bowel cancer research is an area currently being funded by a number of patient families. Family and friends of the late Seán Crummey set up a memorial fund in his memory. The impersonator and political satirist died three years ago from a cancer-related illness. Since then the Seán Crummey Memorial Fund has donated over £50,000 to fund a PhD in bowel cancer research in CCRCB.

## Support for Multiple Sclerosis

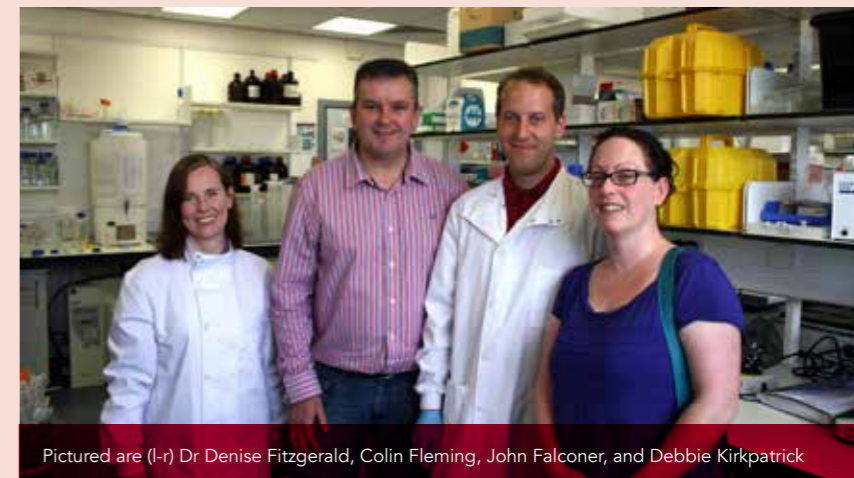
The Queen's Centre for Infection and Immunity in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences has received generous donations from the Antrim Borough Multiple Sclerosis Support Group.

The Centre is undertaking research on the immunological basis of MS with the aim of developing new strategies to treat MS and other inflammatory and demyelinating disorders. By supporting the Centre, members of the Group hope it will help advance research into a cure, or at least more effective treatments, for Multiple Sclerosis.

In 2013, Dr Denise Fitzgerald from the Centre for Immunity and Infection was awarded £425k by

the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council to investigate how parts of the immune system can help repair the damage caused by MS attacks.

The Antrim Support group recently donated £4,000 to support Dr Fitzgerald's work and visited the Centre to find out at first-hand how her research was progressing.



Pictured are (l-r) Dr Denise Fitzgerald, Colin Fleming, John Falconer, and Debbie Kirkpatrick

## Generous gift from Canada

Queen's graduates Dr Richard James, Toronto (left), and his sister, Suzanne Martin are pictured with Professor Danny McAuley when they visited the Centre for Infection and Immunity during the year. Richard and Suzanne are currently helping to support a three-year scholarship in lung disease in memory of the James family – Edwin, Kathleen and Flora – all of whom were Queen's alumni. Edwin James MD FRCPI was a physician specialising in respiratory medicine in Dungannon.



## Finding out about eye disease

Queen's hosted a successful information evening on current research in eye disease in September. More than 50 donors, patients and patient families attended to hear about the work ongoing in age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

In addition to presentations from Professors Usha Chakravarthy, Noemi Lois and Augusto Azuaro-Blanco there were opportunities to talk to researchers about their work and the potential of new treatments currently in development. Professor Alan Stitt, Director of the Centre for Experimental Medicine (CEM), gave an update on the new CEM building that is due to be completed in spring 2015, with the first researchers moving in to the new facility in the summer.

Situated alongside the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology and the Centre for Infection and Immunity, this will bring together on one site more than 1,000 researchers working across a range of diseases including eye disease, diabetes, cancer and lung disease.

If you would like to support any of our medical research programmes or to receive regular updates, please contact Helen Surgenor (h.barnes@qub.ac.uk), Alice O'Rawe (alice.orawe@qub.ac.uk) or Rachel Ketola (r.ketola@qub.ac.uk), tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3159



Alice O'Rawe with Maureen and Derek Neill from the Macular Society who attended the event.

# Annual Fund – answering the call

During 2014 support amounting to £100,000 has been provided for 60 projects to enhance the student experience at Queen's – thanks to the hard work of a dedicated team of student callers, the unstinting generosity of the University's graduates and supporters, and the endeavours of Queen's Annual Fund.

As Annual Fund Manager Natasha Sharma points out, the impact of alumni support is both far-reaching and an essential part of student life.

Queen's Annual Fund was launched in 1999, since when over £2.2m has been raised, made up of over 36,000 gifts from around 5,000 donors. In the last year alone, nearly 1,200 alumni donated a generous £84,000 to the Fund. As Queen's and other universities face an uncertain funding future, the role of Queen's Annual Fund takes on an even greater significance.

For over 15 years the Annual Fund has served as a very strong and tangible connection between current and former students, linking projects which impact directly on the present generation with those who have gone before. It is an essential resource that helps Queen's maintain its position as a world-class university.

## *"The impact of the Queen's Annual Fund is immediate"*

More than this, the Annual Fund changes lives by giving students the opportunity to experience the best possible Queen's education and in doing so, developing the leaders of tomorrow.

The impact of the Queen's Annual Fund is immediate. The worthy

projects it supports all take place within a few months of the crucial cash injection being received. The Fund really does reflect the immense power of philanthropy.

Among the 60 or so student-focused projects supported during 2014 were six reflecting the diverse cultural make-up of the University, 20 focusing on sport and five which could be described as arts-related. The remainder include business groups, Students' Union initiatives (primarily linked to health and welfare) and academic undertakings.

The three projects highlighted below reflect the wide range of activities which rely on Queen's Annual Fund each year. And at the bottom of these pages you can see some of the other initiatives which attracted support this year, all of which have in common the direct impact the funding makes on student lives.

### High drama at student festival

The Irish Student Drama Association (ISDA), through Queen's Players, was allocated £2,000 to help host a drama festival in Belfast.



The Irish Student Drama Association, which this year celebrated its 67th anniversary, held its annual Festival in Belfast. The Festival, which welcomed over 250 student participants from seven colleges, played to combined audiences of around 1,500 people. Support from Queen's Annual Fund covered costs associated with venue hire at two city locations – the Crescent Arts Centre and Rainbow Factory Studio in the Youth Action NI building.

ISDA gives students the opportunities to receive feedback from theatre professionals, to learn from

technicians and venue staff and to study the pool of student talent from competing universities.

Rounding off a most successful Festival, Holly Hannaway of Queen's University Players picked up the

award for Best Supporting Actress for her portrayal of Dick in "Clarence".

### Rosettes for dressage and Prix Caprilli

Queen's Equestrian Club received £1,600 to part-fund participation in an Intersvarsity competition.

The funding made a massive difference towards the cost of Queen's sending competitors to the Irish Intersvarsity competition.

The biggest ever contingent – 28 members, 24 of whom were

competing – went to Trinity College Dublin in February.

Interest in this year's Intersvarsity was so great that the club had to hold trials – one for dressage and one Prix Caprilli – with over 30 members



taking part over two days. And thanks to extra training the team had a most successful Dublin trip.

Out of 24 competitors, 15 came home with rosettes, including two 2nd and one 3rd place! Queen's finished 3rd overall – a wonderful achievement having never had two teams placed in either Prix Caprilli or dressage.

Without Annual Fund backing it would not have been possible for so many to represent their University and have such great success doing it!



Underwater  
Hockey Club  
.....  
Intersvarsity  
Competition

Paddle sports  
club  
.....  
Diving boats



Photographic  
Society  
.....  
Power pack

Symphony  
Orchestra  
.....  
GB tour

Supported by



Queen's Annual Fund

Chinese  
Students  
and Scholars  
Association  
.....  
Chinese Culture  
week



Caving Club  
.....  
Trailer

Queen's Annual  
Fund awards  
2014



Literary and  
Scientific  
.....  
Intersvarsity  
competition

Volunteer SU  
.....  
Volunteer  
workshops



SPACE  
.....  
Meccano  
footbridge  
over River  
Lagan

## Amazing Malawi!

Friends of Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) received £1,500 to part-fund a trip to Malawi to help orphans, those suffering with HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable people.



Malawi was an eye-opening experience for six students who got the opportunity to impact directly on the lives of many Malawians through education, healthcare and friendship in July 2014. Over three weeks, their time was divided between Nkope hospital, wound clinics in primary schools, health talks to villagers and HIV groups. Nkope gave them a great opportunity to see first-hand how healthcare is delivered in the developing world.

While there, the students donated basic medical supplies to Nkope

– bandages, hand sanitizers and dressings along with some basic essentials such as soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes – all of which had been fundraised for back home.

The trip taught the medics to value their own healthcare system and education and, for some, reconfirmed their ambitions to work in the developing world!

The team passed on their thanks to Queen's Annual Fund for its support saying "Malawi was amazing!"

## Building Links

Though it might not sound like it is the case, Queen's Annual Fund is not just all about the money. Each year, student callers speak to around 6,000 alumni catching up on graduate memories of their time at Queen's – however long ago – and updating them on life at the University today. Building links between the past and the present; creating possibilities for the future.

University is about so much more than books and exams...it is about students having a positive experience that helps develop them as individuals.

Your support throughout 2014 has enabled Queen's Annual Fund to support projects that really do benefit students, the campus and the community.

So next time you get a call from Queen's Annual Fund, please consider answering it.

To find out more about Queen's Annual Fund, go to [www.daro.qub.ac.uk/annualfund](http://www.daro.qub.ac.uk/annualfund) or contact Natasha Sharma, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3928 or email [natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk](mailto:natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk)

# Scholarships – inspiring the next generation

Retired lawyer John PB Maxwell funds four annual scholarships for barristers who distinguish themselves in exams during postgraduate training at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies (IPLS) at Queen's.

Awarded on merit, the scholarships range from £1,000 to £5,000 and are issued when barristers in pupillage are shadowing their legal masters and are unable to earn fees. For some, a Maxwell Scholarship could mean the difference between a career at the Bar or a totally different path; for others it enables them to purchase necessary equipment at the start of their professional life.

Two Maxwell Scholars, Margaret Carson from Newcastle (2008) and Cathryn O'Neill from Belfast (2012), talk to the *Donor Newsletter* about the impact of a Maxwell Scholarship.

"The John PB Maxwell scholarships are hugely important for budding barristers," said Margaret. "At a time when it is difficult for them financially, the Scholarship makes a real difference."

Margaret is concerned that other trainees might be put off from joining the profession due to the financial constraints of the first six months of life at the Bar.

"Winning a Maxwell Scholarship meant I didn't have to take out a hefty loan or work additional shifts in my part-time job," said Margaret, who was unaware of the scholarships until after she got her exam results. "I'd like to thank John for making my early career path a lot easier."

For Margaret, who now practices family and civil law, the Scholarship covered living expenses and the purchase of a laptop.

Cathryn O'Neill didn't initially consider a career in law. The former television executive gave up her media job to take a Masters in Legal Science conversion course at Queen's in 2011.

Unlike Margaret however, Cathryn was aware of the Maxwell Scholarship before she started at the Institute. For her the prospect of gaining an award was a major incentive to work hard for her exams.

*"John's is a personal investment in the Bar and it feels very special to me to be a recipient"*

"A Maxwell Scholarship is an acknowledgement that you have done well at the Institute and for me it was a real motivation to study. The Award is a major financial cushion in those early days when there is lots of competition for work and annual Bar Library subscription fees to pay," said Cathryn, now a barrister working in family, criminal and civil law.

"John's generosity cannot be overstated and comes when it is needed most. For some it could determine whether or not they remain at the Bar. Nothing really compares to the Maxwell Scholarships in the legal profession," she added.

Though John is now retired he still keeps up with his Scholars. Cathryn and Margaret both enjoy the Maxwell Scholars' Christmas lunch which John hosts each year which is a good

opportunity for all 28 scholars and, of course, John to catch up.

"The Maxwell Scholars are like a little family – a mini legal network – and we all look forward to the Christmas get-together," said Cathryn. "John is an inspiration; young barristers do need help and when I am in a position to give I hope to do so."

"John really cares about the profession," said Margaret. "His is a personal investment in the Bar and it feels very special to me to be a recipient of a Maxwell Scholarship."

If you would like to set up a scholarship please contact Naomi King at [n.king@qub.ac.uk](mailto:n.king@qub.ac.uk) or Jackie Trainor at [j.trainor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.trainor@qub.ac.uk) or telephone +44 (0)28 9097 3114

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Mind your mood  
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Dinghies and lifejackets



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Mats and safety equipment





On 5 May, Matthew Alderdice, a pharmacology graduate from Newcastle University, lined up with over 17,500 fellow entrants in the 2014 Deep RiverRock Belfast City Marathon. Like many others that day, Matthew was raising money for a good cause. For him, and for those in the First Trust Bank supported relay team, it was the Seán Crummey Memorial Fund, a cause now close to Matthew's heart.

The Fund was set up to commemorate Seán Crummey, the voice behind the popular television and radio show *The Folks on the Hill*. The widely respected political satirist, impersonator and screenwriter, who graduated from Queen's in 1980 with a BA in French and Classical Greek, died in November 2011 from a cancer-related illness, aged 53.

To date in excess of £50,000 raised in Sean's memory is supporting research into colorectal (also known as colon, rectal or more commonly bowel cancer) at the Centre for Cancer

Research and Cell Biology at Queen's (CCRCB). That research is carried out by PhD student Matthew, under the supervision of internationally respected Professor Manuel Salto-Tellez (above left) and Clinical Research Fellow Dr Vicky Coyle.

*"I want to prove to the Crummey family that I was the right choice"*

Without the Crummey funding Matthew's PhD may never have happened, however confident he might have been that the necessary finance would materialise. Now the next few years of his career are mapped out allowing him to develop his research skills and climb the academic ladder.

"I feel extremely privileged to be given the opportunity to work on

such an important research project. Competition for this PhD place was highly competitive," said Matthew, "so I want to prove to the Crummey family that I was the right choice."

Matthew's three-year backing from the Fund contributes to the cost of his training on the latest state-of-the-art research equipment and licenses his usage of specialist machines each time he carries out an experiment. It also funds travel to conferences where he can share his research and seek out potential collaborators in the same field, and pays a modest monthly stipend.

"Cancer is not just one disease, so it's not a case of looking for a single solution to fit all scenarios," said Matthew. "My day-to-day routine involves analysing patient samples, examining personal genetics for a correlation between genomes and cancer. It also includes exploring how chemotherapy might be tailored to individuals to spare them some of the problems associated with toxicity."

The Seán Crummey Memorial Fund is clearly making a huge impact on Matthew's life, enabling him to use exciting technologies in search of solutions to bowel cancer and giving him a CV that will certainly stand out. More importantly, however, the funding has the potential to effect the lives of countless other people, in Northern Ireland and beyond.

Bowel cancer is the UK's second biggest cancer killer and the fourth most common cancer. Over 40,000 people are diagnosed with the disease each year – one every 13 minutes – and just under 16,000 die from it annually. In July, CCRCB researchers led by Dr Sandra van Schaeybroeck made a significant breakthrough that may benefit bowel cancer patients. It's the kind of discovery that motivates researchers like Matthew in his work.

In the spring of this year, just a few months into his Queen's PhD, Matthew signed up for the Belfast Marathon as part of a team raising money in support of the fund that ultimately supports his CCRCB research. After running a leg of the relay, and joined by his parents

David (a former Lord Mayor of Belfast) and Fiona (a Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Queen's), Matthew met with the Crummey family – his first proper interaction with them. So, initially a benefactor-beneficiary one, the connection between the Crummey family and Matthew is now very personal.

*"Research couldn't happen without huge support and donations from individual graduates and their families"*

"It is really good to know where my funding is coming from and how hard-earned that support is. It certainly makes me think twice about getting the most out of my research and gives me additional – very personal – motivation," said Matthew.

"Research couldn't happen without huge support and donations from individual graduates and their families," added Matthew. "I can't promise that an answer will be forthcoming from my research – that wouldn't be right – but I can assure the Crummey family that their funding is being put to the best possible use in memory of Sean," he concluded.

Laughter has long been regarded as having a positive impact. It relaxes the body, boosts the immune system and triggers the release of endorphins, the body's natural feel-good chemicals. 'Laughing matters' is the motto of the Fund that underpins Matthew Alderdice's research. Three years after his passing, Seán Crummey is still making an impact, and in more ways than might be immediately obvious.

If you would like to support a PhD student in medicine, please contact Helen Surgenor (h.barnes@qub.ac.uk), Alice O'Rawe (alice.orawe@qub.ac.uk) or Rachel Ketola (r.ketola@qub.ac.uk), tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3159



Preparing for the Belfast Marathon in May with Matthew (centre), are CCRCB research technician Marc Fuchs (left) and postdoc student Abdullah Alvi. Looking on (L-R) are Joe Torney (Seán Crummey Memorial Fund committee member), Brendan Crummey (brother of the late comedian) and Mark McKeown (First Trust Bank).

# Volunteering: doing more than you have to

Giving to Queen's doesn't necessarily have to involve making a financial gift. Each year, many graduates donate their time to the University and find that becoming an alumni volunteer can be rewarding and stimulating. As Alumni Officer Meaghan Lyons points out, volunteers organise reunions, act as career mentors, help run Association events and do much, much more.

## Keeping the Queen's spirit alive and well in the USA

Despite having relocated to his new home in the North-Eastern United States shortly after graduation in 1981, John O'Donoghue remains a dedicated volunteer for Queen's. He was the first President of the US Alumni Association, has served on the Board of "The Friends of Queen's" and has recently been asked to step in at the helm of the same as President.



"I think, being an immigrant to the US, over time my strongest connection to Northern Ireland – with the exception of my family – was to Queen's," said John. "Volunteering for Queen's in the USA has paid dividends in my career, as I have been fortunate to build up a strong business network through the various

volunteer projects in my 30-plus years of working in finance."

Originally from Newcastle, John now calls Little Silver, New Jersey his hometown. He is an active volunteer in his local community and is passionate about causes that look to improve education at local and state level.

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."*

*Winston Churchill*

Some of John's most rewarding volunteering experiences with Queen's come from his involvement in a Queen's/US graduate internship programme and organising high-profile University events in the USA.

"I was fortunate in my years at Cowen to hire two young Queen's grads who have gone on to bigger and better things!" said John. "Over the years we have had some very successful events, especially in New York with the likes of Senator George Mitchell, Seamus Heaney, Paul Muldoon, Liam Neeson, Gerald McSorley, Conor O'Clery and Phil Coulter. It is my intention to get our local alumni chapter back on track!"

## Graduate Volunteer of the Year

'Alumni Volunteer of the Year' Liz Torrans, BA (Social Anthropology) 1980, has been supporting Queen's in a voluntary capacity for many years. Liz was Honorary Secretary of the Queen's Graduates' Association for five years and is now a career mentor, helping students develop plans for their chosen career path.



The Volunteering Excellency Awards are presented each year by the Students' Union to recognise the broad range of voluntary activities undertaken by students, staff and graduates of the University.

## Perfect business mentor

Queen's architecture student Thom Dickerson recently received a rather unique offer on RTÉ's Dragons' Den. While his Gallery Clothing Company didn't get the €30,000 investment he hoped for, he did leave with the mentoring support of Queen's 2013 Graduate of the Year, Ramona Nicholas (right) of Cara Pharmacy.

For Ramona, who is a regular volunteer at her alma mater, offering her business expertise was an obvious option. "I really liked Thom's concept and while I didn't invest hard cash in it I was very keen, in a Dragons' Den first, to volunteer my time and business expertise," she said.

"Mentoring is so important these days; it's a way of making a huge impact – and a real difference – to the next generation of entrepreneurs. And it's a fun way to volunteer!"

Originally from Cheshire, Thom is currently taking time out to develop The Gallery before completing his degree. He chose to study at Queen's due to family connections with Belfast and because Architecture here is ranked in the top 10 in the UK. And he picked Ramona for her connections to Queen's and her business know-how.

"Ramona was the dragon I focused on from the start," said Thom. "A former Queen's student herself she operates in the retail sector and as such was the perfect mentor for the business. With the ongoing support from the Enterprise Students' Union Team, combined with Ramona's expertise, I am very excited for the year ahead and what it might hold."

Enterprise SU, which aims to foster a culture of entrepreneurial thinking amongst students, supported Thom with the development of his business idea.

If you would like to volunteer your expertise to support aspiring students, contribute to the work of Enterprise SU, get involved in a Queen's association or find out more about volunteering, contact Meaghan Lyons at [m.lyons@qub.ac.uk](mailto:m.lyons@qub.ac.uk) or telephone +44 (0)28 9097 3135 or visit the website <http://darro.qub.ac.uk/volunteer>



# Open for business

Queen's University, through the Development and Alumni Relations Office, enjoys highly productive partnerships with several prominent national and international companies, many local firms and with a number of individual entrepreneurs and business leaders. Across a diverse range of initiatives at Queen's, these businesses are contributing directly to economic growth in Northern Ireland.

Whether through the provision of scholarships or bursaries, corporate support for awards or underpinning international work experience these relationships are, as Corporate Fundraising Manager Conor O'Kane reports, integral to the student experience.

## Founding father

One of the local cornerstones of the Riddel Hall Founders' Club is the Newry-based family business MJM.

Founded in 1983 to provide refurbishment services to the Irish Sea ferry corridor, the MJM Group now comprises a number of joinery, marine and interior build companies with an annual turnover in excess of £38m and customers in Europe and worldwide. In January 2014 it acquired the Mivan brand with a view to re-establishing it in existing and

new international markets. MJM are successfully currently working across 4 continents and 26 countries.

For MJM Chairman, Brian McConville, the Founders' Club is about networking, access to expertise and connecting with Queen's.

"As one of the founding members of Founders' Club in 2011 MJM were among the first to recognise the potential the networking initiative affords Northern Ireland businesses. For MJM, it's also about having the opportunity to input to University

courses, to access Queen's business expertise and, ultimately, to transform the local economy. To do that, we are putting education first."



## Banking on success

The annual First Trust Bank Queen's University Graduate and Student of the Year Awards were presented by the President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's, Professor Patrick Johnston, in the Sir William Whitla Hall during Summer Graduation Week in July. And in a unique 'double first' both winners are women and both studied Physics!

Dr Anita Sands, top international businesswoman from the world of finance and listed in the Wall Street 50 for three consecutive years (2011-2013), picked up the 2014 Graduate of the Year title.

Clare Scullion, from Ballygawley in Co Tyrone, won the First Trust Bank Queen's University Student of the Year Award. Currently undertaking a PhD in Physics, Clare expects to graduate for a second time from Queen's in 2016.

Now in their 14th year, the Awards are organised by the Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA) and the University's Development and Alumni Relations Office, with the support of First Trust Bank.

In endorsing the Awards Des Moore, Head of First Trust Bank, said: "We've been supporting the Awards since their inception in 1999 and are very proud to be associated with such an important event in the Queen's University calendar.

"Our endorsement of these Awards recognises and celebrates the achievements of Queen's students and graduates who make such an invaluable contribution to life in Northern Ireland and beyond. We have two exceptionally worthy winners in Anita and Clare this year."



Anita Sands (left) with Clare Scullion

## Food partners

The Institute for Global Food Security (IGFS) at Queen's has created a unique corporate membership opportunity enabling companies to become IGFS partners and to benefit from research and education at the Institute.

The IGFS, under Director Professor Chris Elliott (below), was set up to spearhead the development of innovative scientific and technological solutions in sustainable food production. Researchers at the Institute are working to improve productivity and competitiveness, while helping protect against and minimise contamination insuring the agri-food sector from costly reputational damage.

Acting as a key partner in national and global efforts to provide the world's growing population with a sustainable, safe and secure supply of high quality food, the Institute will further enhance the leading role Queen's plays in ensuring that the local agri-food industry is, and continues to be, globally competitive.

IGFS corporate membership will also ensure that there is a strong industry element to the Institute's research activity, increasing the likelihood of successful knowledge transfer. In turn, the local agri-food industry should become more profitable, resilient, highly skilled and capable of growing and competing within the domestic and international marketplace.



To find out more about IGFS membership please contact Conor O'Kane, Corporate Fundraising Manager, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5189 or email [conor.okane@qub.ac.uk](mailto:conor.okane@qub.ac.uk)

### City Scholars recognition

The City Leadership Group received a commendation in the category of Volunteer of the Year Award 2014 in the CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) awards.

The CASE Volunteer of the Year Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual or team of volunteers who have substantially contributed to enhancing and sustaining an institution's fundraising performance.

The breadth of the City Leadership Group's alumni engagement activities, along with their notable fundraising efforts, were recognised with a special presentation at the annual CASE Europe Conference in Edinburgh in August.

The City Leadership Group, set up in 2011, is dedicated to ensuring that students are provided with opportunities to succeed and that the institution can become a

University of truly global standing, pivotal to Northern Ireland's future prosperity. Members of the group have successful careers in some of the UK's top companies.



Helen Carrick (Head of Major Gifts) is pictured with Declan Tiernan of the City Leadership Group at the CASE Conference

### Supporting scholarship

Between 28 May and 01 July 2014 Ruari-Santiago McBride travelled to the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) in Florianópolis in southern Brazil, thanks to a Santander Mobility Scholarship.

The funding enabled Ruari-Santiago to collaborate with academics there on a number of projects, among them one aiming to improve the standards of care provided to people with drug addictions attending faith-based therapeutic communities. The communities work on the

principle of abstinence, following a 12-step programme and, although not secure like a prison, people are expected to remain there for a period of nine to 12 months.

"During my time I visited five faith-based therapeutic communities, home to people struggling to overcome chemical addictions – a major issue in Brazil owing to the extreme levels of poverty, income inequality and easy access to crack-cocaine," said Ruari-Santiago.

On another project he worked with a group of PhD students on the

benefits and challenges of conducting qualitative research on health topics.

"Overall, the Santander Mobility Scholarship provided me with an excellent opportunity to develop new collaborative links with students and academics at UFSC. I hope over the coming years these links will grow stronger and I will have many more opportunities to work with colleagues in Brazil."



### Caterpillar UK

Caterpillar UK visited Queen's in late autumn to introduce a range of placement and graduate opportunities for engineering students. The event coincided with the launch of a Scholarship Scheme funded by the Caterpillar Foundation. The scheme is open to students in the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Pictured (left-right) are: Niall Beggan and Stephen Irwin (2014 Scholars), Sarah Rust (Graduate Recruitment Manager at Caterpillar UK Ltd), Eamonn McDaid (Caterpillar NI) and student Jack Mooney. All three students are currently on placement with Caterpillar NI.





# LEAVE A LEGACY

"When one of our patients received world-class care at the Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital, he decided to leave a significant legacy to Queen's. His generous bequest will enable our researchers to develop individualised treatments that will have higher cure rates, longer survival times, fewer side effects and provide a better quality of life."

**Professor Richard Wilson**  
Director of Northern Ireland  
Cancer Trials Centre



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If you would like to speak to someone about leaving a gift in your will, please contact **Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer** Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University,  
**T: +44 (0) 28 9097 3162 E: [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk)**

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