Funding the Future

Leaving a Gift in your Will to Queen’s

The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation
A message from
Leslie and Hilary Morrison

As graduates ourselves, we feel fortunate to have obtained a Queen’s University education. For us, it represents a world of opportunities, lifelong friendships and treasured memories – all of which have stayed with us long beyond our graduation day. There has never been a more vital time to invest in the life of the University, so thank you for your interest in supporting Queen’s through a gift in your will.

Queen’s University Belfast plays a pivotal role in Northern Ireland through its world-class teaching and research and its direct contribution to the cultural, social and economic development of the region.

Every day our graduates, staff and students make an enormous impact on the world. Through innovative research and learning, and collaborations with business, industry, the community and the voluntary sector, Queen’s is helping to improve lives.

Through your gift, you are demonstrating that Queen’s has made a difference to you, and that you care about its future.

Your future gift will make a difference
Since its foundation over 150 years ago, Queen’s University has been the very fortunate and grateful beneficiary of legacy gifts. Legacies are vital to ensure that Queen’s maintains its position as a University of global standing. They enable future generations of students to enjoy the life-changing benefits of an exceptional education.

If you are considering a charity gift in your will, and after you safeguard the security of your family and friends, please remember Queen’s.

Your gift will make a difference. It is an investment in the future. You can choose to fund vital medical research, endow fellowships and scholarships, provide library resources, support capital projects and promote student welfare.

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Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet and for considering Queen’s University as part of your legacy.

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Patrons of The Lanyon Society – a unique group of individuals who are considering or have chosen to leave a gift to Queen’s in their will.

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It is an astute future investment
Queen’s University is an established institution bringing about transformational change in education, research and business. Every £1m the University puts into the economy generates a further £1.38m in economic activity. Your gift can help preserve our history through securing important collections and supporting future generations of students, irrespective of their financial background.

Why leave a gift to Queen’s in your will?

It can be appreciated by future generations
Scholarships to support students or rooms and buildings may be named in honour of the donor or a loved one, allowing the gift and the donor’s name to live on in perpetuity.

It can reduce the amount of inheritance tax you pay on your estate
The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation is a registered charity (number: XR 22432) and is thereby exempt from Income and Inheritance Tax. This means you could reduce the amount of tax you pay on your estate. Gifts of stocks, shares or property can also reduce the tax burden on your estate.

“Queen’s has played an influential role in my life. As a student, I took advantage of the vast range of opportunities that are only on offer at a world-class institution such as Queen’s. I believe that it is these life experiences that not only offer the long-term advantages of an exceptional education, but also nurture ambition and a competitive spirit. I feel privileged to have enjoyed these opportunities and want to offer the same to future generations of Queen’s students.”

Jonathan Hill
BA History and Politics 2000

Students studying at the Centre for Infection and Immunity

Left: Graduation
Every year the University gratefully receives legacy gifts ranging from several hundred pounds to six-figure sums. Each gift makes an impact – supporting students in their studies, investing in pioneering medical research to tackle the diseases of the 21st century and preserving and maintaining our heritage.

What can be achieved through your Legacy Gift

Would you like to support pioneering research that could produce cures for major life-altering diseases? Do you believe that our economy would benefit from innovative and responsible leadership? Do you recognise the importance of protecting our heritage and developing our cultural offering for the global stage? Would you like to offer future generations of students a financial lifeline?

Areas of support

A gift in your will may reflect your personal preferences or areas of the University that you wish to support, including:

Buildings and Facilities
Queen’s has more than 250 buildings, some 120 of them listed as being of architectural merit. As well as maintaining and preserving these buildings, the University must also ensure it meets the increasing demands of growing student numbers through provision of new facilities. These include the landmark McClay Library, the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology, the Physical Education Centre, the Postgraduate and Executive Education Centre at Riddel Hall and the Students’ Union. All of these facilities have been made possible through philanthropic gifts such as legacies.

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Medicine and Clinical Research
Major investment in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at Queen’s is enabling transformational change in the areas of Cancer Research and Cell Biology, Vision and Vascular Sciences and Public Health and Population Science, all underpinned by a Clinical Research Facility. The Institute of Health Science at Queen’s connects scientific discovery in research with clinical trials and ultimately the delivery of new treatments and improved patient care. Gifts to Queen’s in this area have far-reaching impact.

World-class Teaching and Student support
Through supporting academic posts, visiting lecturers and fellowships, you can enhance the educational life of students.

Annual Fund
By leaving a gift to the Annual Fund, which supports projects that enrich the student experience, you demonstrate that you care about the future of the University. Your gift will be directed towards the most urgent area of need at that time.

“I cannot emphasise enough the impact that philanthropic gifts, such as legacies, have on the work carried out at Queen’s every day which benefits both our patients and the local economy. The support we receive is critical. It means we are able to attract world-class researchers and secure the infrastructure and facilities for us to study, prevent and treat the major diseases of the 21st century, such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease and asthma, infectious diseases, vision-related conditions and dementia.”

Professor Patrick Johnston
Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at Queen’s and world-renowned expert in cancer research.
“Thanks to the sacrifices my father and mother made, I obtained a university education with all the career and other opportunities that such an education brings. Hence I can think of no more fundamentally worthwhile use of my surplus wealth than helping young people benefit from a world-class education, with all the life-enhancing benefits that brings.”

Professor Sir George Bain
Former Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University Belfast.
How your gift will make a difference

Legacies to Queen’s may be large or small and each gift makes a difference. Here are some examples:

£500 supports a student with essential course materials or equipment.

£2,000 buys a machine needed to extract pure samples of DNA from cancer cells, helping us to identify possible causes and treatments.

£5,000 funds undergraduate student bursaries in the subject areas of your choice.

£10,000 provides specialist books for the library, or new sports equipment for clubs and societies.

£50,000 refurbishes a teaching space or provides a travel scholarship in the area of your preference, in perpetuity.

£100,000 funds an annual visiting Professorship for a scholar of international acclaim or purchases vital equipment to support the study of infectious diseases.

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“My time at Queen’s in the early 1990s played a pivotal role in shaping my life. I am indebted to the School of History at Queen’s and have included my collection of antique maps of Ulster to the School in my will as a small recompense for the education and inspiration I received.”

Sean Rainey
BA Modern History 1994

“When Mr Thomas Simms received world-class care at the Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital in 2010, he decided to leave a significant legacy to Queen’s to support clinical cancer research. His generous bequest enables our researchers to choose better individual treatments that lead to a higher cure rate. His legacy has been instrumental in the level of treatment and care of patients.”

Dr Richard Wilson
Consultant, Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology

Geography students on fieldwork
Planning a gift in your will to The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation

Your will is an important document which details your future wishes and we strongly suggest that you seek professional advice when drafting it. The easiest way to update an existing will is through a codicil document. A template codicil document is inserted in the back sleeve of this brochure.

How to Word your Gift
You may find the following wording helpful when you and your solicitor are considering your gift to Queen’s:

Residuary Legacy: Part or the balance of your estate, after taxes, charges and other legacies have been settled.

“I give the residue of my estate (or x per cent of the residual of my estate) to The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation, Queen’s University Belfast, BT7 1NN

• For its general purposes or
• It is my wish that this gift is used…
  • In support of students
  • To enhance academic development
  • For the purposes of…(please specify)”

Pecuniary Legacy: An exact sum of money for a named beneficiary. You may wish to discuss with your adviser how to protect the real value of your gift from inflation over time.

“I give the sum of £x to The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation, Queen’s University Belfast, BT7 1NN

• For its general purposes or
• It is my wish that this gift is used…
  • In support of students
  • To enhance academic development
  • For the purposes of…(please specify)”

Specific Gift: A gift of specific property, such as land, buildings, shares, copyrights, paintings or other property.

“I give (describe the property to be given) to The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation, Queen’s University Belfast, BT7 1NN.”

International legacy gifts

American Donations: The “Friends of The Queen’s University of Belfast, Inc” Legacy gifts from US tax payers can also benefit from this exemption through the ‘Friends of The Queen’s University of Belfast, Inc.’ – a special fund in the United States, which has charitable status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This means that USA tax payers can offset a donation to the Friends against their tax bill.

Canadian Donations
The Queen’s University of Belfast is a University outside Canada, which is prescribed by section 3503 of the Canadian Income Tax Regulations. We can send you details of how to leave a bequest to Queen’s that is suitable for Canadian tax purposes.

“Having studied at Queen’s at undergraduate level, I always wanted to pursue further studies in Law; however this would not have been possible had I not obtained a scholarship. This opportunity has provided me with a stepping stone to progress as both a practising and academic lawyer… it has opened so many doors for me, for which I am so grateful.”

Eime Hamilton
LLB (1st Class) 2006
Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet and for considering Queen’s University as part of your legacy.

If you have already chosen to support Queen’s University Belfast through a legacy gift, we are immensely grateful. Thank you.

We appreciate the details of your will are private, so please be assured that if you choose to let us know of your plans involving a future gift to The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation, the details will remain confidential and will not be seen as binding.

The Lanyon Society is a unique group of individuals who are considering or have chosen to leave a gift to Queen’s in their will. If you wish, you can let us know of your plans by returning the Lanyon Society form in the back sleeve of this brochure. It is beneficial to us to understand how our donors are planning to help and we can ensure that all aspects of your plans involving the University are fully understood. It is also a pleasure for us to be able to thank you personally for the gift that you have planned and recognise your generosity in a way that is appropriate for you.

By becoming a member of The Lanyon Society, you can choose to receive regular updates on developments at Queen’s, notifications of selected University events and an invitation to a special annual donor event, should you wish.

If we can assist you further

If you would like to speak to someone about leaving a gift in your will, please contact Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer, Development & Alumni Relations Office, Queen’s University Belfast, BT7 1NN. Tel: +44 (0) 28 9097 3162 or email susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk.

“As the beneficiary of a Scholarship myself, I understand first-hand the benefits of helping gifted students who may not have the resources to support a University education.

And today’s difficult economic climate will obviously affect the decisions of eligible students about going to Queen’s. I hope that those who can, will give a little to help support such individuals.”

Professor Emeritus James Dunwoody BSc Mechanical Engineering 1957

Memorial Window, Black and White Hall
The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation

Since its establishment in 1999, The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation has been engaged in generating financial support for Queen’s capital development programmes and academic initiatives from private individuals, charitable trusts and corporations. A core part of our work is fostering lasting relationships with donors who share Queen’s vision for the future.

The work of the Foundation is consistent with the University’s mission to become recognised as a world-class university that links Northern Ireland to the global community through the life-changing experience we offer to our students, the distinctive contribution made to society by our graduates and the high quality and impact of our research.

The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation, Queen’s University Belfast, BT7 1NN
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9097 3162
Registered charity number: XR 22432