



**Look at the difference
your gift has made**



A big thank you

Welcome to the latest edition of our annual newsletter for friends and supporters of the University of Essex.



Developments at Essex continue apace and I am delighted to report that since the last newsletter the University has received donations well in excess of £2 million. This money is being directed to good causes across the University, some of which are spotlighted on these pages.

Around 1,000 of our supporters (both in the UK and overseas) now give to the University; I cannot think of a better testament to the value placed in the University by its alumni and friends. Indeed, since starting as Vice-Chancellor a little over a year ago, I have been struck by the sense of kinship Essex evokes amongst its community.

A new 'matched-funding' scheme launched by the Government in August 2008 will provide our fundraising efforts with a further boost. Under this scheme the University will receive an extra 50p for every pound donated up to a limit of £1.35 million. This is in addition to Gift Aid, from which the University already benefits. Under these combined schemes, the value of a donation could therefore be almost doubled at no extra cost or inconvenience to the donor.

The way in which higher education is funded has changed enormously in recent years and now, more than ever, we look towards philanthropic support. The Development and Alumni Relations Office manages all the University's fundraising activities and welcomes enquires on our funding priorities.

Thank you to each and every supporter. I hope you recognise the important role you continue to play at Essex.

Stay in touch.

Professor Colin Riordan
Vice-Chancellor

Fund goes from strength to strength

The University of Essex Annual Fund was established in 2002 to harness the goodwill of our alumni, staff and 'friends' to benefit students currently studying at Essex.

As the name suggests, the Annual Fund seeks support each and every year, from both existing and new donors, giving those closest to us the opportunity to support the University today and in the future.



Support for the Annual Fund is increasing, helping the University to provide students with greater opportunities, facilities and financial support. In 2007 the Annual Fund

Disbursement Group awarded more than £55,000 to a wide range of projects, from new sports equipment to help for students in financial need.

Our main objective is to ensure there are funds available to allow flexibility to respond quickly and appropriately to the areas of greatest need within the University. Your donations, along with others, make a significant and immediate impact upon the quality of the Essex experience for our students.

A gift to the Annual Fund ensures we are able to maintain and improve upon our position as a leading academic institution, and continue to attract the best and brightest students, regardless of their background.

The Annual Fund is supported by two telephone appeals per academic year, which generally take place during the autumn and summer terms. Around 25 callers are employed to telephone Essex graduates.

"I thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the Summer 2008 fundraising appeal as a student caller. A current Essex student myself, it is always interesting to chat with our alumni about their experiences at the University and to hear where their degrees have taken them.

Particularly exciting were the stories of people who studied here in the 1960's and to hear first-hand what it was like to be amongst the first students at Essex. It is amazing how the University has grown!

The generosity and commitment of our alumni to giving something back and helping current students was really very touching."

Emma West, PhD Sociology, Student Caller



Banking support from Abbey

Support for the University's entrepreneurial activities received a welcome boost with the creation of a formal partnership with Abbey National plc., Banco Santander's UK subsidiary. The agreement represents a donation to the University of £180,000 over the next three years.

Funds will be used to provide postgraduate scholarships and bursaries for students or staff wishing to undertake study or research overseas. Funding for technology research projects will also be available along with awards for non-academic achievement and support for entrepreneurship activities.



New look for popular Theatre

The Lakeside Theatre is the subject of a capital campaign currently underway to secure funds for its extension and renovation providing a new entrance and foyer, full box office, bar and café and the introduction of a lift.

The total cost of the project is estimated at £780,000 and fundraising efforts are already well-underway with donations totalling £150,000 received from Garfield Weston and the Foyle Foundation. The project was also awarded £8,000 from the Annual Fund and is in-line to receive £100,000 from a legacy left to Essex by Professor Winsten formerly of the University's Department of Mathematical Sciences.

Essex philanthropist supports East 15

The University has been accepted on to the Jack Petchey Foundation's Achievement Award Scheme, which will see £4,000 per year awarded to East 15 projects. The Award Scheme rewards students who have made significant achievements throughout their studies and provides funding towards projects identified by East 15's students and staff.

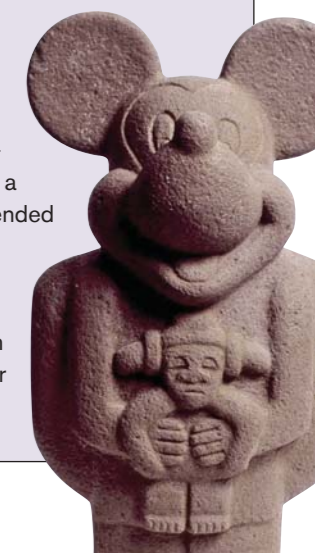
The Foundation was established by Essex philanthropist and 2008 Honorary Graduand Jack Petchey who, in the last decade, has devoted much of his time and energy to supporting young people in east London and Essex.



Exciting future for Latin American art collection

In 2007, the University of Essex Collection of Latin American Art (UECLAA) was awarded full accreditation by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) along £20,000 towards the digitisation and online management of works to allow extended access to, and research of, the Collection.

The MLA commended UECLAA's five-year development plan which includes a programme of select acquisitions, extended exhibition schedule and a capital campaign for the creation of a permanent display space at the University's Colchester campus, which will involve the renovation of the former Hexagon restaurant.



Lasting legacies

A scholarship fund has been established as a result of a £1.5 million legacy bequeathed to the University. The *Silberrad Scholarships* will allow the University to support its own graduates to pursue PhD study and will be open to application for anyone who holds an undergraduate and/or Masters degree awarded by Essex.

The first three scholarships, which will cover tuition fees and a bursary element towards living costs, will be awarded in 2008-09. The scholarships will be awarded according to the applicant's academic achievements and research potential.

A second legacy of over £250,000 was received from the estate of Professor Winsten, a former member of Mathematical Sciences. This legacy will support an annual maths lecture, postgraduate students and the Lakeside Theatre.

Another recent legacy, from the Drake-Lewis Estate valued at £113,000, will be used to provide scholarships for postgraduates within the Department of Art History and Theory and for students enrolled on a postgraduate course in the field of Health and Human Sciences.

And a word from you...

In 2008 Hanif Lalani (BA Mathematics, 1983), supported the University's Student Hatchery - an initiative established by the Research and Enterprise Office to help students develop business ideas in a risk-free business environment.

'As Group Finance Director of BT', Hanif explains, 'I am keen to see people develop their entrepreneurship. A passion for business is the key differentiation and the Hatchery will allow people to experiment/experience business life. It is also very rewarding to put something back into the Essex community.'



Students benefit from local generosity

More than £800 was raised at a Town and Gown event, hosted by Wivenhoe's Town Mayor. The event aims to enhance the growing relationship between Wivenhoe and the University whilst raising funds towards a bursary for students resident in Wivenhoe.

The 2008 recipients were Max Nolte (2nd year BA International Relations and Politics) and Darren McCormick (2nd year BSc Sports and Exercise Science). Both students were chosen to receive awards because of their academic performance and community work in Wivenhoe.

International students have also benefited from a new fund established in memory of Dr Paul Townsend. The fund, which has already disbursed awards of £3,000, has been created to help international students studying Mathematical Sciences.



A testament to a popular professor

Pledges totalling more than £10,000 have been made to the Thomas Puttfarken Fund, established in memory of Professor Puttfarken who died suddenly in 2006.



The Fund, created to support postgraduate Art Theory students, has already made two awards; Sally Mincher received over £500 towards a research trip to Los Angeles and Saikrishna Banerjee received £1,000 towards the cost of a study visit to the Mayan sites in Mexico.

If you would like more information about our various fundraising campaigns and activities please do not hesitate to contact us:

Development and Alumni Relations
University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 3SQ
Tel: 01206 873372 Email: alumni@essex.ac.uk

