



Murray Edwards
College
University of Cambridge

Women Today, Women Tomorrow

The Campaign for Murray Edwards College



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We are a College that supports outstanding young women to achieve academic excellence and to develop their confidence and leadership skills.

Our ambition is to encourage more young women to join us, offer greater support for them to achieve their highest potential and send them into the world to do extraordinary things.

Within the co-educational environment of the University of Cambridge, we can make a unique additional contribution to young women's learning and development. We work with students to encourage confidence and risk-taking in their learning, issues which are particularly important for women. We also work across the University to address issues related to gender and learning, such as implicit bias in both teaching and assessment.

Our academic and personal development programme (Gateway) is unique in Cambridge. We explore getting the best out of supervisions, aiming high in examinations, personal skills development and career options and preparation.

The results of this work are encouraging; our academic achievement is high; we regularly achieve 92% or more students getting Firsts and 2:1s in their final exams, higher than the University average.

From the beginning, we have had a reputation for being a College open to outstanding young women whatever their school background, and this continues. Almost two-thirds of our UK students are from state schools.

What we want is for our young women to get the best out of Cambridge and to leave us feeling that 'the world is their oyster' with the deep confidence in themselves that will make this possible.



Our Alumnae and their impact on the World



Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell (NH 1965) discovered pulsars in 1967



Sue Perkins (NH 1988), broadcaster and television presenter



Helen McDonald (NH 1989) author of 'H is for Hawk', winner of Samuel Johnson Prize and Costa Book of the Year 2014



Livia Garfield (NH 1993), CEO of Severn Trent, and expert in managing complex infrastructure and organisations in a regulated environment

Alumnae of the College have made a significant impact on the world over the last 60 years, becoming leaders of families, communities, companies, universities and charities.

Among our alumnae you will find six global University leaders, the woman who discovered pulsars and world-recognised experts on HIV and stem cells.

In law we are proud to boast of one of the very few female Senior Judges at the Old

Bailey (and the only one at that time she was appointed), and the Chair of the Bar Council. Our legal alumnae fight for justice all over the world, including leading prosecutions on Cambodian War Crimes at the International Criminal Tribunal.

In the private sector, we can celebrate one of only six female CEOs in the FTSE100. Our women are leading global enterprises, marketing companies and national utility companies. They serve on the board of major professional service firms, lead financial regulators, and run hundreds of their own businesses, small and large.

In the third sector and government, our women leaders are diplomats, financial experts at the World Bank, leading major NGOs, and promoting equality for women at global grant making trusts.

In the performing arts and entertainment industries, our women have broken barriers such as being part of the first set of two female presenters of a prime time television programme (Strictly Come Dancing), one of the presenters of the most successful UK television programmes in 2015 (Great British Bake Off) and have won scores of BAFTAs.

Our alumnae are found regularly on the small screen as actors, broadcasters, journalists and presenters, on stage and also on the large screen in Hollywood blockbusters. We're exceptionally proud of our writers – who are frequently in the Times bestseller list and have won plenty of awards including the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Costa Book of the Year.

Our alumnae are women who make an impact. Over and over again, our former students tell us that they found their path – and the courage to follow it – here at Murray Edwards College.

Our plans for the future



Nick Corfield (St John's 1981) has given £2.8 million to establish the Corfield Lectureship in maths, which will focus on women's learning and achievement in maths

Our young women students want to make a difference in the world, and we want to make sure they are able to meet their full academic and personal potential.

Pursuing educational excellence

We have exceptional young women and we want them to have exceptional teaching from our Fellows, which must also be appropriate for young women and their learning needs.

We want to provide female role models especially in subjects where women are under-represented. We have been successful in achieving an endowment for a linked Lectureship with the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics.

A major part of the role is to investigate and pilot the most appropriate way to encourage young women to engage with Maths, and to succeed and to stay within the subject. We would like to follow this success with linked posts in Engineering, Physics and Chemistry.

Our vision is to recruit more female Fellows to be role models in STEM subjects

Linked lectureship in Engineering £500,000 (5 years) £1.8 million (endowed)

University Teaching Officer in Physics £500,000 (5 years) £1.8 million (endowed)



School students at our Pathways for Success event

Increase the number of high quality candidates who apply to Murray Edwards as their first choice

As well as regular school visits we run a specific event 'Pathways for Success' for Lower 6th form (Year 12) students. These events are carefully designed to inspire and inform using role models and workshops and to challenge stereotypes as well as answer the questions young women have about what 'success' might mean to them. Student feedback on what they take away from the day reveals a

transformative experience "a changed view of Cambridge", "more confidence in my ability and myself", and "a sense of empowerment in being a young woman with the potential to achieve success".

We aim to extend Pathways to a wider group of young women and their advisors

2 courses at £16,000 each

She talks Science

We want to give increased attention to STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, Medicine) subjects, where young women in school and university are significantly under-represented. Just one in five students studying engineering at Cambridge is a woman, and just one in ten in computer science.

In 2014, we brought together researchers, teachers, students, and industry specialists for a symposium about Women in Science to discuss this problem. We are building the findings from the symposium – about the importance of role models, confidence, resilience, and workplace culture – into the work of the College.

Our vision extends this to a Flying Start programme to deliver in depth subject teaching to new undergraduates just before the start of term, making sure they have the skills, experience and confidence to make the very most of their first term, and beyond. We have already established a popular STEMM blog and involvement from a growing range of schools and their students.

We aim to encourage women to study STEMM subjects and excel

Flying Start programme to give new undergraduates a head start in STEMM subjects £175,000 for three years



Kate Prescott wrote an entry for our #SheTalksScience blog on studying Chemistry at Cambridge and why more women should consider the subject at A-level and at university

Funding is a great concern for graduate students as sources have dwindled, particularly for students from the UK and especially in the Arts and Humanities. We would like to grow our graduate body both from the UK and overseas, supporting students with fully funded bursaries and affordable graduate accommodation. We can unlock extensive resources of matched funding across the University if we can find 50% of each award needed.

PhD studentships for UK arts and humanities students (fees and living costs)

One student £30,750 (50% of £61,500)
Endowed studentship £1.7 million

From Cambridge to the world



Students speaking with our alumnae during online speed networking, as part of the Gateway programme

Our programme of academic, personal and career development (**Gateway**) has been an enormous success. We now deliver this to graduate students and will continue to develop the programme to meet student needs.

We want our students to know that the College will be there for them throughout their lives. Young alumnae, particularly

5-15 years out, tell us that they find this a time when they have difficult life and career choices and would welcome support from other alumnae. We have piloted an **alumnae mentoring** programme, with a proper structure and training for mentors. This has been greatly appreciated by young women and we want to make it available for all young alumnae in these years.

Providing personal development for tomorrow's leaders at every level through society

Gateway programme – new modules on leadership £30,000 for three years

Ensuring that women reach their career ambitions

Mentoring programme for all young alumnae £150,000 for three years

Speaking out about equality



Frances O'Grady, General Secretary of the TUC, gave a lecture on income equality as part of our Capitalism on the Edge series with Barbara Stocking

We want the purpose and relevance of Murray Edwards in the modern world to be known and understood. One way to do this is by understanding and **having a voice about women's lives and careers**. Our survey of all our alumnae for our 60th Anniversary (Women Today, Women Tomorrow) revealed that most had faced a challenge in their careers at some point, and of those 38% cited some form of gender inequality. The results of the survey have opened doors

for us into **contemporary debates about gender equality**. Like many others, we think this is a project for men and women working together. As an academic centre we have just begun a review of the literature on how men see (or do not see) behaviours that women find so difficult in the workplace. This will be followed by workshops with men and women who promote gender equality to explore what can be done to change the workplace culture.

And it is not just women's equality we want to speak out about. Women should have a voice on all issues affecting society and we are modelling this through our two-year lecture series 'Capitalism on the Edge'. The private sector is no longer trusted by society, and many of our students who would otherwise like to work in the private sector are put off by the unethical behaviour they see – from the financial crisis to the recent misbehaviour of VW motors. Our series will explore whether capitalism – from companies, to taxes to employment rights – can be changed for the good of society.

Delivery of research, workshops, conferences and lectures

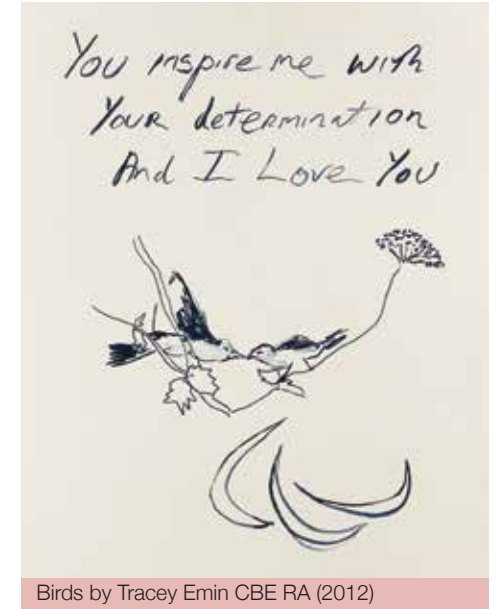
£39,000 for three years

A hidden gem

We have a bold building and beautiful gardens and we also have a **globally important collection of art created by women**. In 2010 an audit revealed that 8 in 10 artists displayed in the Tate Modern were men. In 30 years, only five women have won the Turner Prize. Art by women is overlooked and undervalued. The myth that "there have been no great women artists" is persistent; it has created a vicious circle of invisibility. The New Hall Art Collection was founded in 1986 to break this circle. Thanks to loans and donations, the collection has grown from a single work to almost 500 works by some of the world's leading artists, including Tracey Emin, Anne Redpath, Dame Paula Rego and Maggi Hambling. It represents the second largest collection of contemporary and



Rego Ines de Castro by Paula Rego DBE



Birds by Tracey Emin CBE RA (2012)

modern art by women in the world and is open to the public daily, and for free. We aim to make this collection better known across the world, continue to support the creation of art by women and to develop the reputation needed to attract potential patrons.

Making women artists visible

Professional Curator £37,000 (one year)
£1.1 million (endowed)

Restoring our buildings



Alumna Mishal Husain (NH 1992) with current student Catriona Murray, who both lived in Orchard Court (Room F11)

Our Grade II* listed buildings are now 50 years old and in need of attention.

The 1960s experimental concrete provides daily challenges for the maintenance team. Our aim to attract more outstanding students requires us to provide high quality, comfortable and affordable accommodation. We have a rolling programme to renovate and refurbish Orchard Court (also known as Old Court).



One particular aim is to increase the number of graduate students, and to make sure they can live in College in their first year – the best place for them to take advantage of all the College community has to offer. We have a long term aim (phase 2 of our Campaign) to provide a new building for graduate students.

Preserving quality accommodation into the 21st Century

Full renovation of one room (and associated kitchen/bathroom/corridor) £90,000

Full renovation and refurbishment of one staircase of rooms £1.5 million

Providing brand new accommodation for graduate students £7 million

Our history

Murray Edwards College was founded as New Hall in 1954, the same year that wartime rationing ended and six years after the University began awarding women degrees. From the beginning, the College was committed to making a Cambridge University education available to women from all backgrounds. Application was through an exam taken before A Levels, which enabled girls to apply who were not able to stay on for the extra term in the 6th Form which was required for the traditional 'Oxbridge' exams.

Once a temporary home had been secured in Silver Street, New Hall opened its doors to our very first students: just 16 women. New Hall had no wealthy benefactor to secure its future in those early years. In 1952, 40 people became the first members of the "Association to promote a Third Foundation for Women in the University of Cambridge",

each giving £1. Thanks to the efforts of this group, and in particular the industry of the Appeals Committee, £25,000 was raised by 1954. With the determination of the first President, Dame Rosemary Murray (later the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University) and Dr Robin Hammond the Senior Tutor, the College thrived.

After a few years a new, permanent home for the College was urgently needed. In an inspiring act of support for women's education, the Darwin family provided land to make this possible. In 1964, leading modernist architects, Chamberlin, Powell and Bon (who went on to design the Barbican) were commissioned to create a building. Our home and the gardens surrounding it are a symbol of our modern, open ethos and strong sense of purpose.



Our first sixteen students having dinner in Silver Street, 1954

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Ros Smith (NH 1981) and Steve Edwards at the Benefactors' Feast 2015

We adopted our current name in 2008, following a donation of £30m from alumna Ros Smith and her husband, Steve Edwards. Their gift allowed us to address immediate funding concerns, reinstate our Junior Research Fellowships, and put in place important new access initiatives.



Rosemary Murray & Robin Hammond hold the grant of arms and crest in 1971

"No-one from my family had attended university, and so coming to Cambridge (from a small town in Yorkshire) was both a challenging and life-enhancing experience. What I learned was the importance of education to what you can achieve. Education can be both personally fulfilling and inspirationally transformative. It allowed me to succeed in ways that I had never anticipated and I am wholeheartedly committed to the principle of educational progression based on academic ability rather than on class, background, colour or religion"

Ros Smith, alumna and donor

Dear Alumnae,

The University of Cambridge and all 31 constituent colleges are campaigning together to raise £2 billion by 2020. This challenging goal will transform lives and opportunities.

The College fundraising campaign – Women Today, Women Tomorrow – is part of this joint effort. All funds given will go to support priorities at the College and our vision described here.

We hope you will join us in meeting this shared challenge.

**Yours,
Murray Edwards College**



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