



Gates Cambridge Scholars

2011



Foreword by Professor Robert Lethbridge



After my first year as Provost, I am even more impressed by what this extraordinary programme offers both the University of Cambridge and its élite of Gates Scholars.

It has been a year of reviewing the tremendous achievements of the last decade and looking ahead to the further development of the Trust. Working closely with the Scholars' Council on this has been immensely rewarding, reinforcing my respect for the ways in which the students themselves enrich the experience and opportunities afforded by the vision and founding generosity of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The newly-established formal Welcome and Graduation occasions here in Cambridge have also strengthened the sense of community which is a distinct feature of the Gates Scholarships. And the evidence of

that community's extension beyond Cambridge is to be found both in the work of the Alumni Association and in my own meetings with former Gates Scholars around the world. During this last year, I have personally seen some of them in New Haven, Seattle, New York and Singapore. All of them remain deeply committed to the Gates Cambridge Trust. We can be confident that each new generation of graduates will further enhance the profile of the Scholarships. Academic brilliance, allied to leadership potential, justified their original selection. Their work, across so many disciplines, will change the ways in which important global challenges are met. Gates Scholars have the responsibility and privilege to shape the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Lethbridge'.

Professor Robert Lethbridge, Provost

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About the scholarships

In October 2000 the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation donated \$210 million to the University of Cambridge to establish the Gates Cambridge Trust.

The Trust administers the Gates Cambridge Scholarships – a prestigious international scholarship programme that brings outstanding graduates from outside the United Kingdom to study at the University of Cambridge. Gates Cambridge Scholarships are awarded on the basis of a person's intellectual ability, leadership capacity, a good fit with Cambridge, and a desire to use knowledge to contribute to society.

The first entry of Gates Scholars came to Cambridge in October 2001. Since then the Trust has awarded 1,075 scholarships to citizens of 94 countries. In October 2011 the Trust awarded 88 scholarships to new Scholars from 29 countries.

In the 2011/12 academic year there are 239 Gates Scholars from 53 countries studying in Cambridge. Scholars pursue the full range of academic disciplines available at Cambridge and are spread throughout all 31 Colleges. The following pages highlight their achievements, activities and aspirations.

The Gates Scholars' Council (page 4), made up of 12 current scholars, represents the needs of Scholars in Cambridge. The Council organises a range of regular events for new and current scholars – such as the orientation programme for new scholars, a distinguished lectures series, Scholars' symposia, annual conferences and a wide range of social events – most of which are open to the wider Cambridge community.

The Gates Scholars' Alumni Association [GSAA] (page 5) – established in 2005 by members of the inaugural class of scholars – works to ensure every alum remains part of the Gates Cambridge community after completing their course. There are currently 836 Gates Alumni from 88 countries who are spread throughout the world pursuing a wide range of careers. The GSAA organises regular alumni events, undertakes outreach activities and helps to build a strong and lasting network of future leaders committed to improving the lives of others.

Full details about the Gates Cambridge Scholarships, Scholars and Alumni are available from www.gatesscholar.org.

Trustees

Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, FRS

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and Chair of the Gates Cambridge Trust



Mr William H Gates Sr

Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Mr Eric Godfrey

Vice President & Vice Provost for Student Life, University of Washington



Lord Rees of Ludlow, OM, FRS

President of the Royal Society and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge



Dr Andrew Robertson

UC Berkeley School of Law, and Gates Scholar 2001



Dr David Runciman

Reader in Political Thought at Department of Political Science and International Studies, University of Cambridge and Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge



Professor Susan Smith, FBA

Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge



Professor Megan Vaughan, FBA

Smuts Professor of Commonwealth History, University of Cambridge



Officers

Professor Robert Lethbridge (Provost)

Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge



Mr Andrew Thompson, MBE (Treasurer)

Fellow (and Senior Bursar Emeritus) of Magdalene College, Cambridge



Dr Jonathan Nicholls (Secretary)

Registrar of the University of Cambridge



Mr Jim Smith (Executive Officer)

Senior Member of Wolfson College, Cambridge



Dr David Lott (Trust Accountant)

Senior Member of Wolfson College, Cambridge



Ms Lucy Milazzo (Student Support Officer)

Senior Member of Wolfson College, Cambridge



Ms Kirsty Simons (Scholarships Officer)



Mrs Usha Virdee (Accounts Assistant)



Scholars' Council 2011–12

The Gates Scholars Council was established to enrich the academic, social, and professional lives of Scholars while in Cambridge, as well as to help create a global network of future leaders committed to improving the lives of others.

The Council puts on a range of events for current Scholars, including: a multi-day orientation event new Scholars, the Gates Cambridge Distinguished Lecture series, Scholar colloquia and regular social and academic events throughout the year.

Orian Welling

President & Chair



Megan Sim

Vice President & Secretary



Douglas Brumley

Treasurer



Stella Nordhagen

Alumni Officer



Andrew Gruen

Communications Officer



Cameron Taylor

Gates Scholar Magazine Editor-in-Chief



Alice Adriaenssens

Academic Affairs Officer



Gina Murphy

Internal Officer



Diego Bravo

External Officer



Alex Davies

Social Officer



Anastasiia Kamenska

Social Officer



Dankrad Feist

Technology Officer



Gates Scholars Alumni Association (GSAA)

The GSAA was established in 2005 by members of the inaugural class of Scholars and works closely with the Trust to create a global network of future leaders committed to improving the lives of others.

All Gates Scholars automatically become members of the GSAA upon completion of their Scholarship and are encouraged to become involved in its activities.

The GSAA is funded by and fully aligned with the strategic aims of the Trust: its Board of Directors undertake outreach and profile-raising work through the Ambassadors programme and organise a range of in person and on-line events to ensure that alumni continue to feel part of the Gates Cambridge community upon completion of their degree.

Co-Chairs of the Alumni Association

Trivikram Arun



Jennifer Piscopo



Coordinating Committee Members

Tristan Brown
Treasurer



Lauren Zeitels
Secretary



Kate Franko
Director of Communications



Dan DiCenso
Director of Communications



Nathan George
Director of Membership



Mun-Kit Choy
Director of Membership



Mamta Thangaraj
Director of Public Interest



Sook May Ivy
Director of Professional Development



Sarah Tierney Niyogii
Director of Technology



Ms Tovah Ackerman

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Criminology, Queens' College

previous university

Amherst College



I am honored to be studying criminology in Cambridge. I am particularly interested in narratives of criminality, particularly the dehumanizing rhetoric used to describe criminals in the U.S., e.g. calling them monsters, scum, beasts, etc. In my experience such language is often followed by espoused support for harsh punishment. I am curious whether a similar narrative of criminality exists in the U.K. and, if so, how such a narrative might relate to a national attitude on criminal punishment. I will be applying this year to PhD programs in the US and eventually would like to teach, research, and stay involved in non-profit prison reform organizations.

Interests: Travelling, good food, and good books.

Ms Andra Adams

Canada • 2010

course in cambridgePhD in Computer Science,
Emmanuel College**previous university**

University of Waterloo



I'm currently pursuing a PhD in Computer Science in the Emotionally Intelligent Interfaces research group of the Computer Laboratory. My research focuses on applying affective computing and social robotics in an intervention for children with autism spectrum conditions. Specifically, I'm using a highly-realistic robotic head to facilitate emotion recognition from facial expressions. I love travelling and hiking, and am looking forward to another year of exploring the incredible trails in the UK and throughout Europe.

Interests: social robotics, affective computing, technology for education, travelling, hiking, running, scuba diving, kayaking, watching ice hockey

Miss Victoria Adesanya

Nigeria • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Queens' College

previous university

University of Lagos



I have the greatest honour of being one of the 2009 Gates Scholars. I will be studying for an MPhil in Advanced Chemical Engineering and research into renewable energy sources. In addition I hope to offer as many management modules as possible to enhance my innovation and improve my business skills. After Cambridge, I intend to work where I can apply my technical and commercial knowledge on cutting-edge projects and attain a chartered engineer status.

Interests: Travelling, sight-seeing, photography, singing, watching movies and cooking Nigerian dishes.

Miss Alice Adriaenssens

USA • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Clinical Biochemistry,
Churchill College**previous university**

University of California (Davis)



I recently graduated from the University of California, Davis with a B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. With the generous help of the Gates Cambridge Trust, I am entering my third year in the four year PhD program in Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease at the Institute of Metabolic Science. My PhD project will focus on the molecular basis of the incretin effect. Specifically, I will be using various imaging techniques to analyze the nutrient sensing capabilities of intestinal enteroendocrine cells, as well as the vesicle dynamics of incretin hormones. Hopefully, by understanding the intricacies of stimulus-secretion coupling mechanisms in intestinal enteroendocrine cells we will be closer to harnessing the incretin effect in therapies aimed at improving the glucose tolerance of patients with type 2 diabetes.

Interests: I enjoy any outdoor sport or activity, including distance running, cycling, hiking, backpacking, soccer, and equestrian sports. I also love traveling and vegetarian cooking.

Dr Sara Ahmadi-Abhari

Iran • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Public Health and Primary Care,
Trinity College

previous university

Tehran University of Medical Sciences



From the research projects I engaged in during my time as a medical student and my work experience on Malaria control at the United Nations Development Programme, I realized how vital epidemiological research is in developing disease control programs. In pursuing PhD in public health, I plan to work as a scientific researcher, conducting population-based research that is translated into strategies that address health problems at a global level.

Interests: Travelling, hiking, photography, music, swimming.

Ms Darinee Alagirisamy

Singapore • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Modern South-Asian Studies,
Selwyn College



My name is Darinee Alagirisamy and I hail from the sunny island of Singapore. My undergraduate years in the National University of Singapore instilled in me a deep appreciation of the past, and its enduring relevance to the present. In particular, the experience piqued my curiosity about the South Asian diaspora. Having won a teaching scholarship earlier, I entered the world of pre-university education as a lecturer and tutor upon graduation.

Throughout this time, my passion for research persisted and I hope to now explore some of the questions that my undergraduate work spawned. My MPhil focuses attention on the relationship binding the Tamil community settled in late-colonial Malaya to India. I believe that in the wake of the HINDRAF riots that shook Malaysia in 2007, my research on this community's identity formation and its implications for nation-building, is not only timely, but critical. I trust that the MPhil will be an important foundation to my envisioned career in academia.

Interests: When I am not thinking or talking about my research interests, I indulge in reading, traveling, yoga and cooking.

Mr Martin Atela

Kenya • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Public Health and Primary Care,
Peterhouse

previous universities

University of Copenhagen

University of Cambridge

Moi University



Using mix methodology approaches – household survey & hospital document reviews/analysis, supplemented with key policy makers/implementers targeted interviews and participatory approaches – my research investigates the factors that impact on the performance of household-health system accountability & engagement mechanisms in supporting primary care delivery in Kenya's rural health facilities. The aim is to understand the role of process in the functioning of the structures with a view to generating coherent policy options to strengthen the capacity of structures in delivering care for HIV/AIDS patients at this level of the health system.

Interests: In addition to health research, I very much enjoy and is involved in several developmental politics constructed around maternal and child health and youth empowerment through education besides group cooking.

Ms Sophie Atkinson

Australia • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable
Development, Jesus College



I am excited to be furthering my studies at Cambridge this year with an MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development. My research for my honours thesis involved addressing renewable energy options for the State of Victoria. I explored the potential for Victoria to become carbon neutral by harnessing its natural resources, such as wind and solar energy. I presented a paper on my research at the ISPRS/IGU Joint Conference in Hong Kong, 2010. I undertook a student exchange to Lund University, Sweden, where I witnessed a socially and environmentally effective approach to transport and urbanisation. Prior to coming to Cambridge, I was working as an engineer for VicRoads, where I was involved in major infrastructure development including construction of a major bridge, incorporating road, rail and river networks. I seek to help transform trends in urbanisation and transport through sustainable development. I am eager to commence my studies and become involved in life at Cambridge.

Interests: Running, reading and travelling.

Miss Marianne Bauer

Germany • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, Jesus College

previous university

St Andrews University



After an MPhil in Theoretical Chemistry, I moved into theoretical physics to understand more about more fundamental processes in different systems. My supervisor and group in Cambridge and the support of the Trust have helped me enormously during this transition. I am now working towards my PhD in the area of ultracold atoms. I hope that at some point I will be able to make use of all the different aspects of my education.

Interests: Reading, languages, hiking, tea, friends.

Ms Rachel Baum

Canada • 2010

course in cambridgeMPhil in Musicology,
Sidney Sussex College**previous university**

McGill University



I'm studying Islam and daily life during the 10th century CE. My main interest is social interactions that integrated or involved musical behaviours.

Interests: Medieval history and languages; cross-cultural studies; improvisation; historiography; Arabic literature; singing and playing instruments; organic gardening and cooking; vegetarianism; animal rights; midwifery.

Mr Kevin Beckford

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in African Studies,
Downing College**previous university**

Yale University



I am pursuing an MPhil in African Studies. My areas of interest include: black transnationalism, political protest, and youth identity.

Interests: Jesus Christ, Gospel Music, Hip Hop Culture, Activism, Food, Community Service, Education, Weight Lifting, Afro – Caribbean culture, Comedy,

Miss Sytske Besemer

Netherlands • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Criminology, Jesus College

previous universitiesFree University, Amsterdam
Leiden University

Before coming to Cambridge I studied psychology and criminology in Leiden and Amsterdam. For my PhD I am investigating mechanisms explaining the intergenerational transmission of violent and criminal behaviour. Why do children of criminal/aggressive parents have a higher risk of showing similar behaviour? I aim to contrast several explanations for this intergenerational continuity such as social learning, official bias against certain families, and the transmission of risk factors. I investigate this in England as well as in the Netherlands. By doing this I hope to contribute to knowledge about the development of aggression and criminal behaviour, which can help to design interventions against such behaviour. I am fascinated by human development of which these types of behaviour are just one part.

Interests: I love playing outdoors; on my roadbike, skiing down mountains, climbing rocks, and windsurfing. I also love photography, cooking, and volunteering for Heppie (www.heppie.nl).

Mr Apoorva Bhandari

India • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Science,
Darwin College

previous universities

University of Edinburgh

National Centre for Biological Science,
India

St. Xavier's College, Gujarat University, India



I have a long standing interest in understanding the architecture of the brain and how it contributes to making us the way we are. I believe that increasingly, discourses in people management and education will be based on a shared account of brain function. At Cambridge I intend to pursue a PhD studying the mechanisms of attention and cognitive control in humans. Eventually I wish to establish a laboratory in India to pursue research in the neural mechanisms of higher cognition, an area largely unrepresented in my country. I hope to build bridges with the education and tutoring community and fulfill the promise that neuroscience holds for education.

Interests: I'm interested in children's minds, politics, SLR photography, street food, hindi cinema and the history of the Indus Valley Civilization and the Enlightenment.

Ms Beatrice Bianchi

Italy • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in African Studies, Peterhouse

previous universities

University of Paris I "Panthéon-
Sorbonne

University of Naples "L'Orientale



At the age of 18 I made my first trip to Africa, to volunteer in a hospital in Ethiopia. This experience changed my life and played a fundamental role in determining my academic choice in socio-political and African studies. I graduated in "International Relations" focused on African studies in Italy, then carried out my postgraduate studies in African Politics at the Sorbonne. Since 2007 I have been focusing on political research about Guinea Conakry. Considering the present extremely crucial socio-political situation of Guinea, my MPhil in Cambridge will enable me to achieve precious tools to continue my research on the political evolution, by analysing the achievements or failures of the transition in a country often neglected by academic research. My hope is to continue my research towards a PhD focused on a comparative study of post-crisis affairs in West Africa. My ambition is to work for international organisations or NGOs involved in conflict management and peace building.

Interests: International Relations, Anthropology, travelling, discovering new cultures and people. I also enjoy classical music, photography, and hiking.

Mrs Anjali Bhardwaj Datta

India • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Trinity College

previous university

University of Delhi



History has always fascinated me. It was my love for the discipline that made me opt for humanities in school. Subsequently, I attained my honours, Masters and M. Phil degrees in History from the University of Delhi where I attained University positions and scholarships, and was engaged in undergraduate teaching. Over the last eight years of my teaching I have published my research papers in journals of international repute. I am deeply interested in twentieth century Indian history with special focus on gender and society. My earlier research focused on post Partition (of India-1947) refugee rehabilitation with special focus on women as agents of change in the capital city of Delhi. For my PhD, I wish to expand my interest to looking at a comparative and correlative study of Partition in the West and East of India via the case studies of Delhi and Calcutta with chief thrust on women as sustainers bringing urban morphological changes.

Interests: My other interests include traveling, playing badminton, engaging with my two year old son, listening to music and working towards the emancipation of women through activism in India.

Ms Julia Bolotina

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and
Celtic, St John's College



I graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in Medieval Studies and English, and am

pursuing an MPhil in Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic with the generous aid of the Gates Cambridge Trust. My thesis focuses on medicine as it was practiced in Anglo-Saxon England outside of monastic circles, particularly by those who are under-represented in the written record; with this I hope to address issues of the access to and dissemination of information.

Mr Joseph Bonneau

USA • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in Computer Science,
Churchill College**previous university**

Stanford University



I study security, researching both technical aspects of cryptography and the human element in large systems like the Internet. I've studied everything from lock-picking to number theory to the economics of privacy with the goal of balancing technology's role in our lives. I'm passionate about using computers as an empowering technology, enabling privacy, free speech, free association, and free access to information. My thesis work focuses on the increasing difficulty of establishing identity in an interconnected world of many digital devices.

Interests: Sports (American football, association football, rugby, water polo), bicycle touring, hosting pub quizzes, science fiction, classic video games.

Mr Matko Botincan

Croatia • 2010

course in cambridgePhD in Computer Science,
Trinity College**previous university**

Sveuciliste u Zagrebu (Croatia)



I come from Croatia where I finished my previous degrees in Mathematics. So far I have worked on a number of computer science projects in academia and industry dealing with different topics such as combinatorial optimization, numerical simulations, compiler construction, security and semantic web. As a PhD student at Computer Laboratory I am working in the area of software verification trying to find new and improve current techniques for checking correctness of software. I am also actively involved in entrepreneurial activities and am serving as Vice-President for 2010/11 of Cambridge University Entrepreneurs.

Interests: Computer science, entrepreneurship, economy, social psychology, philosophy, music, tennis, squash, badminton, windsurfing.

Mr Chris Boyce

USA • 2011

course in cambridgePhD in Chemical Engineering,
Trinity College**previous university**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Since high school I have been very interested in engineering new energy technologies to help mitigate carbon emissions. Now I am imaging and modeling fundamental aspects of fluidized beds to better enable combustion cycles with carbon capture and sequestration. I am also interested in using entrepreneurship to bring developing technologies to industry, where these technologies can truly impact the world. Now, I am working on a company I started after high school which designs and simulates flexible, stretchable circuit boards to enable wearable electronics. In the future, I hope to combine these interests to entrepreneur innovative energy ideas which can ultimately help to mitigate global climate change.

Interests: Soccer, tennis, entrepreneurship, scuba diving, Gates scholars events

Mr Diego Bravo

Argentina • 2010

course in cambridgePhD in Physiology, Development &
Neuroscience, St John's College**previous universities**

University of Oxford

Balseiro Institute, Cuyo National
University

Balseiro Institute – Cuyo National University



One of the most promising models of synaptic plasticity shows that it depends on the precise timing of neuronal activation. These learning – related events are embedded on structures generating sustained oscillatory activity. The temporal and spatial interplay of both processes generates a rich and complex dynamics with fascinating emergent properties. Beyond its aesthetic charms, these phenomena are fundamental and ubiquitous in the developing and functioning brain. I plan to devote my next three years to a combined approach to the topic, alternating theoretical and experimental techniques: mathematical models and computational simulations from my original background in theoretical physics, and electrophysiology and optogenetics from my newly acquired skills in physiology.

Interests: Besides neuroscience, my dearest pleasure is literature: reading, writing short-stories and oral storytelling. I also enjoy baroque music, teaching, languages, walking and hiking with friends, and evenings at the theatre.

Mr Simon Breakspear

Australia • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, Queens' College

previous university

University of Oxford



I want to re-imagine and redesign organised learning as we know it (i.e. education systems). I am increasingly passionate about working with school and system leaders to challenge the status quo, inspire fresh thinking and leverage new solutions in order to radically improve learning. My PhD research focuses on the role international comparisons of school system performance can play for policy makers who are seeking to improve their country's performance. I have spent 3 months at the OECD in Paris as part of the PISA team and am now interviewing policy makers across five countries. I am also leading a network of emerging educational leaders across Australia and New Zealand who are seeking to develop innovative solutions to local learning challenges.

Interests: Running, traveling, and long, lazy meals with friends.

Mr Peter Brereton

USA • 2001

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, St Edmund's College

previous university

United States Naval Academy



In Richard Phillips' Quantum Optoelectronics Group at the Cavendish looking into the coherent control and spectroscopy of quantum structures in semiconductors (quantum wells/dots). Research has wide applicability in the design of new and novel semiconductor devices for computing as well as adding to our fundamental understanding of electronic processes in condensed matter systems. Enjoying Cambridge with my wife Amy (a visiting scholar at the Faculty of Education) and twin babies Peter and Isabelle.

Interests: Quantum Information science, Rowing.

Miss Emily Bruce

USA • 2007

course in cambridge

MPhil in Biological Science (Pathology),
Pembroke College

previous university

Vassar College



I work in Dr Paul Digard's lab in the Division of Virology studying the role of cellular proteins in Influenza A virus assembly and budding.

Interests: I enjoy reading, hiking and traveling (especially outside cities). I recently ran my first half-marathon and I have a dog named Pippin, who occupies much of my time when I'm not in lab.

Mr Douglas Brumley

Australia • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Applied Mathematics and
Theoretical Physics, Trinity College

previous university

University of Melbourne



In 2008 I completed a Bachelor of Science (Degree with Honours) from The University of Melbourne, after which, I studied the fluid mechanics of nanoscale devices. I am now in the second year of my PhD in Applied Mathematics at Cambridge. In particular, I study the fluid mechanics of biological systems. At the moment I am developing mathematical models to describe concentrated suspensions of swimming microorganisms, in which the hydrodynamic interactions are significant.

Interests: I enjoy cycling, swimming and rowing, both from a competitive and social point of view. I also enjoy cooking, woodwork (furniture and model making) and photography.

Ms Marie Brunet

France • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Pharmacology, Christ's College

I graduated as a veterinarian in 2010 from Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort, Paris. I am currently attending a specialization in medicine and surgery of small animals at Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort and writing my veterinary thesis. I have always been interested in Research and Pharmacology. I discovered more about those fields during a summer school in Cambridge. I organized a collaboration between my veterinary school and the Pharmacology Department to come back to do my veterinary thesis there. Outside of my studies, I enjoy to share my knowledge with other students and to help them to go through the lessons. I worked as a student's tutor for 6 years. I belong to an association aiming to protect wildlife and the environment. I intend to pursue a PhD in Pharmacology in Cambridge, focused on the mechanism governing the trafficking and targeting of the P2X7-purinergic receptor, an important regulator in the inflammatory response.

Interests: Social activities, dance, sport, music

**Mr Michael Bycroft**

New Zealand • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in History and Philosophy of Science, Darwin College

previous university

University of Toronto

In September 2010 I arrived in Cambridge to begin my PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science. Earlier this year I published two papers in the subject: Going Outside the Model: Robustness Analysis and Experimental Science, in Spontaneous Generations (online journal run by graduate students at the University of Toronto) The trials of theory: Psychology and institutionalist economics, 1910-1931, in Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences My PhD topic is on the emergence of the experimental method in the late 17th and early 18th centuries in the physical sciences, with a focus on experimental variation: the use of multiple materials, instruments, procedures, and experimenters to give multi-pillared support to claims about nature. I am looking forward to studying under Professor Hasok Chang.

Interests: Reviewing popular science books; learning French and reading French literature; building a website to allow language-learners to extract, sort, store and learn words and phrases while reading online text in a new language; tennis, cricket, swimming.

**Ms Andrea Cabrero-Vilatela**

Mexico • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Micro & Nanotechnology, Pembroke College

My name is Andrea Cabrero Vilatela and I was born in Mexico City, Mexico. In 2010 I graduated with honors from Universidad Iberoamericana where I did my undergraduate studies in Physics Engineering. I had the opportunity to study in prestigious research institutions across the country during summer periods. I also did internships abroad, four months at the University of Cambridge, UK, and a summer at Rice University, Texas, USA, working in research projects related to Nanotechnology. Since High School, I have been tutoring in Mathematics and Physics as a part time job, which I deeply enjoy. At Cambridge, I plan to study the MPhil in Micro and Nanotechnology Enterprise to acquire a stronger theoretical and practical knowledge in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. Afterwards I am interested in studying a PhD in Materials Science in preparation to become a well-rounded scientist and be able to do research and teach at University level.

Interests: Apart from studying, my other passion in life is to dance Flamenco. I have formally danced from a young age, devoting periods of my life entirely to this activity. I also teach Flamenco to young girls and perform in shows a few times per year.

**Mr Ambrogio Camozzi Pistoja**

Italy • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Italian, Pembroke College

previous university

Universita Degli Studi di Milano (Italy)

Part of my family is originally from Kiev but as the oldest of four siblings, I grew up between Milan and Lake Como, in Italy. During my university education I was taught the historicist approach of the "scuola storica" and began to consider Dante's masterpiece in relationship to its cultural background and for its literary all-inclusiveness. In 2004 I co-founded 'Esperimenti Danteschi', an international course in Dante studies that saw its seventh gathering in spring 2011. Throughout my research in Milan, Paris and London I have been investigating the sources of the Commedia and now, in Cambridge, as a PhD student at Pembroke College, I intend to focus on the relationship between the poet and the cultural traditions of Alexander the Great. In my research I aim also to investigate connections between the Abrahamic religions and make a contribution to our understanding of the relationship between Western and Eastern Mediterranean cultures.

Interests: More generally, I am interested in the history and perspectives of European cultural identity, especially within academia. I enjoy spending time with Tom, Jasper and Tessa, reading the Herald Tribune, cooking and lively conversation over a Bordeaux.



Ms Bianca Carpeneti

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Archaeology, Clare Hall

previous university

Stanford University



I'm interested in heritage and museums, especially the way people design and use public spaces to create and engage in their community. My background is in archaeology, focusing on the Mediterranean world and material culture studies. For the past couple summers, I've been working on an excavation in the north of England at a Roman military fort called Binchester. My work there has looked at the cultural heritage landscape of the region, and how Binchester fits into this. When I can, I like to volunteer with outreach programs in museum and archaeology education. I'm passionate about using ethnographic research to design and implement human-centered museum spaces that build community and foster lifelong learning.

Interests: Hiking, running (non-competitive), bicycle touring, cooking (as long as I don't have to follow a recipe), adventuring, poetry, Italian movies, learning Arabic, book clubs where you don't actually read.

Ms Margaret Carpenter

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MMus in Choral Studies, Clare College

previous universities

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Keele University



I am currently undertaking the M. Mus. in Choral Studies, a program that strengthens my long-standing desire for musical education to feature prominently in the growth of all young people. My course is both practical and research based; I am studying the art of choral conducting while also learning music editing skills and observing and working with the choir schools and chapel choirs at Cambridge. My main interests are working with a choir school program while actively performing as a choral singer and conductor, my hope being that my teaching and performance will lead to a more widespread interest in choral music as an art form and also music as a unique medium of communication unto itself.

Interests: My interests include horseback riding, hiking, and traveling; and count me in for a good pub night!

Mr Christopher Carter

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Latin American Studies, Fitzwilliam College

previous university

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



The MPhil in Latin American Studies has given me the opportunity to combine two of my strongest passions. After spending two summers in Latin America teaching English and conducting research, I developed a strong interest in the region's political systems. More recently, I have developed a passion for public opinion research and how it affects state-society relations. As part of my dissertation, I will use public opinion data to study perceptions of democracy among indigenous groups in Ecuador. In the future, I hope to continue developing these two interests by pursuing a PhD in political science with a focus on Latin American political behavior.

Interests: In my spare time, I enjoy traveling, playing tennis, and listening to music. I also love watching UNC basketball.

Mr Andres Castro Samayoa

El Salvador • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Department of Geography, Jesus College

previous university

Harvard University



At Harvard, I completed a BA in Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality and intend to continue my focus on gender by pursuing an MPhil in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies. During my college years, I devoted much of my time to working at the Harvard College Women's Center and chairing the Women's Leadership Project. My academic interests focus on the intersections of gender studies and physical spaces, with a particular focus on institutions of higher education. I am interested in the history of residential living facilities, both at Harvard and Cambridge. I hope that my research can better prepare other institutions of higher education to create environments that are welcoming to diverse experiences and perspectives, especially for all genders and sexualities. Currently, I hold a Management Fellowship at Harvard College with the Office of Student Life and work with the Freshman Dean's Office on issues of diversity.

Interests: Diversity in Higher Education Administration, LGBTQ issues, gender theory.

Mr Guilhem Chalancon

France • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Science @ MRC Lab for Molecular Biology, Trinity College

Using computational and experimental approaches, my research at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology will be devoted to identifying the major factors that influence gene expression noise, and quantifying their relative impact. I wish to develop design principles for gene structures as well as gene circuit architectures that allow to fine tune noise. Dissecting the strategies used by cells to accommodate and/or exploit gene expression noise is key to understand cell differentiation, diseases' penetrance, bacterial pathogenicity, molecular evolution. It also promises to improve the efficiency of synthetic gene circuits in bioengineering. On a longer term, I want to pursue a career at the interface between data mining, biotechnologies and theoretical biology.

Interests: Hobbies: Travelling, soccer, cycling, music, infographics, drawings, cinema, languages. Academic: systems biology, machine learning, data mining, molecular biology, networks, evolutionary biology, education, public health, politics

**Ms Rohini Chaturvedi**

India • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography, Fitzwilliam College

previous university

Indian Institute of Forest Management

I grew up in Pune, a city reputed for its environmental conscience. As an undergraduate student I often volunteered time at an environmental education camp for children where I had the opportunity to interact with experts in diverse fields ranging from botany to anthropology. These interactions left me eager to learn more about the linkages among natural resources, livelihoods and development. Consequently, I moved on to study forestry management and later worked in India where I had the opportunity to observe firsthand the gaps between grassroots reality and environmental policy decisions. In an effort to enhance my understanding of environment-development issues, I joined the MPhil in Environment, Society and Development at Cambridge. I completed the course in 2008 and I am now continuing into a PhD. I will be studying environmental federalism in India, focusing on how shifts in power between the Centre and the states are influencing forest related decision making.

Interests: I enjoy travel, cinema, music, and reading.

**Mr Lubin Chen**

China • 2009

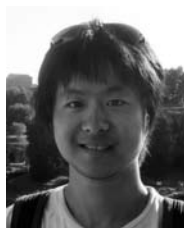
course in cambridge

PhDPg in Pharmacology, Jesus College

previous universitiesShanghai Jiao Tong University
University of Oxford

With the help of the Gates Cambridge Trust, I am pursuing a PhD in the Department of Pharmacology. My work is to investigate into an ion channel called Hyperpolarization-activated Cyclic Nucleotide-modulated (HCN) ion channels. Our lab has shown that HCN channel subtype 2 plays a central role in both inflammatory and neuropathic pain. And I am currently working on the molecular mechanism of how this channel is modulated in the hope of finding some chemicals which target on this channel and may have potential therapeutic benefits for those patients who suffer from pain.

Interests: Reading and writing; Basketball, Football and Swimming; Music in general; Chinese calligraphy and history, especially the history of Song Dynasty.

**Miss Yen-Chun Chen**

Taiwan • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Sociology, Queens' College

previous universitiesUniversity of Cambridge
Utrecht University
National Taiwan University

I am from Taiwan, a country full of friendly people and warm welcome. My concern about other people's lives lead me to study in social science (from politics, social works to sociology). Volunteer experience in different kinds of organisations and positions is a big part of my life stories and has opened up different doors for me to explore the global world. For my PhD, I will focus on intergenerational relationship, especially on employed women's roles as the main care giver in the family. As a person with such a strong familial orientation, I plan to go back to Taiwan after my study and use my knowledge and ability to contribute to the land and people that have nurtured me so much.

Interests: hiking, jogging, classical music(the lighter and softer the better), opera, musical, tea/coffee tasting, reading, singing(very much), traveling(alone or with family and friends), volunteering, and helping people!



Miss Ekaterina Chernyakova

Russia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Music, Emmanuel College

previous university

Utrecht University



After graduating from St. Petersburg Conservatory as a musicologist, I spent a year in Utrecht and a year in Paris studying the Middle Ages and medieval music in particular. My MPhil project at Utrecht University was dedicated to the study of early medieval notions of hearing, aural perception, and musical ear. For my PhD at Cambridge I plan to continue exploring the problems of hearing, perceiving and memorizing music within the context of medieval plainchant repertoires and the earliest Western musical notations.

Interests: Music of all kinds, books, movies, theatre, fashion, paleography, meeting people, languages, Carolingian music theory treatises.

Mr Zhe Choo

Singapore • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Trinity College

previous university

University of Cambridge



I'm a history PhD, focusing on reserve currency politics and economic thought in the Bretton Woods period from 1945 to 1971. The greater part of the present Bretton Woods literature deals with high political and high bureaucratic narratives. My goal is to deepen our understanding of the politics of the Bretton Woods era by uncovering neglected narratives of global imbalances from trade unions, business associations, and the financial press.

Interests: Medieval history, films, popular science.

Mr Edward Chouchani

Canada • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Science, King's College

previous university

Carleton College



During my undergraduate work I have been involved in extra-curricular independent research with Mobilab Technologies, a privately owned biotech company founded by a partner and myself. As its V-P I have been responsible in large part for the development of a bioelectric solar cell, offering a much lower cost alternative to conventional solar technologies by using robust, renewable biological materials. Within the academic sphere I have researched towards the improved characterization of the Stearoyl-CoA desaturase enzyme, responsible for regulation of fat storage and widely pursued potential drug target. At Cambridge I intend to develop and characterize targeted antioxidant small molecules to provide improved therapies for age-related dysfunction, as well as to further understand the role of oxidative stress in the aging process. I believe this research provides an excellent balance of entrepreneurial drive with a desire for better understanding of fundamental biochemical processes.

Dr Rajiv Chowdhury

Bangladesh • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Public Health and Primary Care, Queens' College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Dhaka



My PhD research will focus on various lifestyle, behavioural and genetic risk factors of cardiovascular disease in South Asian countries such as Bangladesh and Pakistan, based on collaborative primary studies between Cambridge and local leading cardiovascular facilities. These are countries which, despite huge vascular disease burden, remain largely unaddressed. Comprehensive evidence expected from this work should contribute importantly to scientific understanding, to the development of locally appropriate strategies to prevent and control the disease, and to the efficient use of scarce resources for vascular prevention in low-income countries. Additionally, as a scientific coordinator of a large consortium of UK-based cohorts (CNC, comprising over 100,000 participants), I am investigating the roles of diet and nutrigenetics to increase cardiovascular risk in Western population.

Interests: I like travelling, swimming and reading science fiction novels. I am also an avid follower of international politics and global health policies.

Miss Lindsay Chura

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Psychiatry, Trinity College

previous university

Mount Holyoke College



Over the past several years I have pursued biomedical research along a developmental continuum from embryonic to postnatal development. Most recently, as a Fulbright Scholar in Australia, I investigated the role of lifestyle factors on ovarian function and pregnancy outcome. I am fascinated by the mechanisms through which maternal and environmental conditions induce physiological changes in the womb and influence later development. At Cambridge I plan to conduct research into whether neurodevelopmental conditions are programmed by high levels of testosterone in the womb. This will serve as a foundation for my future career in clinical research and health policy. I have a strong interest in translational “bench to bedside” research and through my work will endeavor to help bridge the divide that separates laboratory research and clinical practice.

Interests: Biomedical research, autism, international health and science policy, science diplomacy and education, bioethics.

Ms Sara Clarke-Habibi

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Education (Thematic), Homerton College



I earned a BA in Ethics, Society & Law from the University of Toronto (1999) and an MA in Conflict Resolution from Landegg International University (2002). My graduate studies lead me to specialize in peace education and to work with school communities in post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina on educational approaches to inter-group reconciliation and healing from the effects of mass violence. My MPhil/PhD research at the University of Cambridge focusses on identity-formation and the role of transformative learning approaches in helping individuals and communities recover from ethnically and/or religiously motivated violence, and on how to prevent the future occurrence of intergroup violence through appropriate educational policies, methodologies and curricula.

Interests: I love performing choral music, painting and cooking for friends and family, gardening and being with my kids. I enjoy reflecting on deep existential questions and symbolisms. My favorite way to chill out is watching stand-up comedy and Rom-Coms.

Mr Ben Cole

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Advanced Computer Science, Trinity College

previous university

Cornell University



After spending the last year working for Google as a Technology Pioneer in Africa, Ben is currently pursuing his MPhil in Advanced Computer Science in Trinity College. He plans to use his degree from Cambridge to try to build technology for social progress, especially in the developing world. Aside from the academics, Ben enjoys running, exploring new places, and getting to know interesting people.

Interests: Technology, Foreign Affairs, Business, Reading, Thinking

Mr Adam Comer

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Churchill College

previous university

United States Air Force Academy



In hopes of performing meaningful research on the efficient and responsible use of energy, I am pursuing a PhD in engineering with a focus on the optimization of fuel injectors in gas turbine engines. The ultimate goal is the minimization of the environmental impact of gas turbine combustion and the maximization of fuel efficiency. More specifically, I am analyzing liquid fuel injectors for aero-engine applications. This optimization problem is complicated by a number of design trade-offs and the computationally expensive simulations required for an accurate assessment of a given design's performance. Combining empirical and analytical tools with computational fluid dynamics conducted at varying degrees of spatial and temporal resolution, I aspire to develop an automated, multi-fidelity approach for fuel injector design. Furthermore, this project will provide some insight into the influence of injector design parameters on overall combustor performance.

Interests: I enjoy football (soccer), tennis, running, and lifting weights. I am always fascinated to hear the religious and philosophical views of others.

Ms Annalijn Conklin

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Medical Science @ MRC
Epidemiology Unit, Trinity Hall

My phd in epidemiology will focus on patterns of individual dietary 'lifestyle choices' and how these are influenced by multiple social determinants, particularly the contribution of the physical environment. After migrating to many cities since growing up in a small town near Canada's Point Pelee National Park in south-western Ontario, I am thrilled to be studying in Cambridge with the support of a Gates Scholarship. Since completing a Master's in Life Sciences (Edinburgh) and a Master's in Public Health (Columbia), I have worked as a health policy analyst at RAND Europe, a not-for-profit research organisation. My goal is to develop a career in the intersection of academia and policy, working closely with communities and governments to support the translation of research evidence into preventive action for tackling disparities in population health and well-being.

Interests: In my spare time I cross-train in martial arts, travel, listen to music or drum, watch or play in theatre performances, reflect on moral philosophy, psychology and social theory, hang out with friends or volunteer for One Degree and other charities.



Ms Tara Cookson

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography, Wolfson College

My current work in the Department of Geography has developed largely out of the research I undertook for my MA thesis around social reproduction, women's activism and transnationalism, as well as my experiences working in the development field in Latin America. I am interested in pursuing some of the issues that were highlighted during my time as a project developer by focusing on 'community-based' multi-national NGOs in Latin America that tackle such issues as housing, healthcare, and education within low-income contexts.

Interests: I enjoy studying language, in particular Spanish and Portuguese. I love to cook, wander bookstores and farmers' markets, and dance salsa until the sun rises!



Miss Jessica Cooney

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Archaeology, St John's College

previous universities

University of York
Columbia University

During my time at Cambridge I will be researching children in the Upper Palaeolithic. I will be looking at art, especially finger flutings done in France and Spain to determine the ages and biological sex of the artists. Hopefully this will also lead to a better understanding of children's lives in the Upper Palaeolithic. I am also very interested and active in archaeological outreach for youths, hoping to foster their interest in the past.

Interests: Traveling, friends, scuba diving, reading, photography, museums, and new adventures.



Mr Jacob Cox

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Biological Science,
Trinity College

previous university

Virginia Military Institute

After six months researching sleeping sickness in sub-Saharan Africa, I am now in Cambridge pursuing an MPhil in pathology. My current work focuses on trypanosomes, the parasites responsible for African sleeping sickness, and the mechanisms they use to evade their host's immune system. After receiving my degree from Cambridge, I will begin an MD/PhD program in the US. My hope is to then enter a career developing treatments for African sleeping sickness and other neglected diseases and to serve as an adviser to entities, like the World Health Organization, that are working to develop health care in sub-Saharan Africa.

Interests: Good company, travel, camping, fitness, and food.



Ms Kathryn Crowcroft

Australia • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Medieval and Renaissance Literature, Jesus College

My MPhil research examines Geoffrey Chaucer's reception in English Renaissance texts, employing linguistic approaches to uncover evolving theological ideas about language and speech during this period. Chaucer's influence extended across the Protestant Reformation, and this raises questions about cultural memory, and our understanding of historic (and academic) periodization. I have always been fascinated by the lessons we can learn from history, and I aim to champion the Humanities in social outreach projects within and beyond the university sphere.

Interests: Learning languages; literacy education projects; writing short fiction and poetry; Qi Gong; travel and the outdoors.

**Mr Alexander Davies**

Australia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Trinity College

previous university

Australian National University

I've come to Cambridge to study a DPhil in Machine Learning. I'm interested in extending the ground-breaking techniques of the field to areas where they can have the most impact.

Interests: Water polo, surfing, guitar, piano

**Miss Mary Beth Day**

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences, Clare Hall

previous universitiesUniversity of Florida
Hamilton College

My research is driven by an interest in the interactions between humans and their environment. Using lake sediment records, I can track changes in paleoclimate and paleoenvironment. This information may contribute to our understanding of human-climate-environment interactions in the past. As a part of my PhD, I will examine a sediment record from a reservoir in Angkor, the ancient Khmer city, located in modern day Cambodia. This record may provide information about environmental conditions at the time the city was abandoned.

Interests: Hiking, cooking, traveling, music.

**Ms Natasha Degen**

USA • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in History of Art, Trinity College

previous university

Princeton University

Having spent the last year working in Beijing as an arts reporter, I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to continue thinking and writing about art at Cambridge. I hope to study twentieth century British art, using an interdisciplinary approach to present culture and politics as complementary parts of a single narrative.

Interests: Travel, film, gossipy stories about historical figures, dessert.



Miss Gillean Denny

USA • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Architecture, Jesus College

previous university

Pennsylvania State University



Continuing from my MPhil research in sustainability and urban planning, my current PhD work seeks to determine the direct impact of Urban Agriculture on an individual's ecological footprint. In the wider world of art and design, theatre sets, the Jesus May Ball, the culinary arts, and my own sketchbook make my days in Cambridge a true joy.

Interests: Sustainable design and construction, theater, anything having to do with the outdoors, all aspects of the written word (devouring books one page at a time, writing, getting lost in musty libraries and second hand bookshops), the world of chocolate (I am on a life quest for the perfect cup of hot chocolate), architecture (the more ancient the structure, the keener my interest), cooking (absolutely everything and anything), and a good nap (if I ever find the time to indulge I assure you that I'd probably enjoy it immensely).

Mr Mathieu Desruisseaux

Canada • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Management Studies,
King's College

previous university

Harvard University



I grew up in Quebec and lived in New Mexico, before studying comparative politics at Harvard and working in China. At the Judge Business School, I zoom in on social networks within organizations and explore implications for leadership, entrepreneurship, women and minority groups.

Interests: Early Renaissance choral music, Chinese literature, political philosophy, Montreal, local politics, minority rights, squash, hiking, tango, jazz, volunteering, passionate people and big open skies.

Ms Clara Devlieger

Belgium • 2011

course in cambridge

MRes in Social Anthropology,
Trinity College



I am very grateful to have received a Gates scholarship to start my PhD research in Social Anthropology this year. I will be preparing for fieldwork next year in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). There I will research the niche in trade between Kinshasa (DRC) and Brazzaville (capital of Republic of Congo) over the Congo River, a niche completely dominated by disabled traders. I am specifically interested in how the traders manage to turn their marginalised social position around in this African border zone. I will be looking into how the niche originated, which survival techniques the disabled use to keep it alive, and what the future of the niche will look like. After my PhD I hope to continue research through the international academic community and to use my findings in development cooperation.

Interests: Orienteering, French society, cooking, travel, hiking, spending time with friends and family.

Mr Luca Di Mario

Italy • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering , Selwyn College

previous universities

Imperial College London
Universita' La Sapienza, Rome



I am interested in exploring and researching the most appropriate technologies for water and sanitation in low-income communities. After my academic studies I would like to work in the developing world, working either as an Environmental Engineer for an International Agency, or at an NGO. The Cambridge MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development is a unique opportunity to expand on my current knowledge and skills on the wider environmental aspects of engineering in development.

Interests: International Relations, sustainable development. I enjoy reading books, jogging, cooking, traveling and watching movies.

Mr Jonathan Diaz

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Astronomy, Churchill College

previous universitiesUniversity of Western Australia
Georgia Institute of Technology

Galaxies are often admired for their elegance and beauty, but they are also quite fragile. All across the night sky we see galaxies destroying one another, and these processes occur close to home in the small dwarf galaxies which orbit around our Milky Way. Using numerical simulations, I am able to constrain the interaction histories of these galaxies as they are being ripped apart. Streams of stars and gas are spewed from these galaxies during this process, and my goal is to understand the mechanisms responsible for their formation.

Interests: Theatre, music, film, guitar, vegetarian cooking

Mr David Dillon

USA • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Public Health and Primary Care,
Wolfson College**previous university**

Northwestern University



My driving interest lies in stemming the spread of preventable disease through novel research, improved healthcare delivery and direct patient care. To academically prepare myself for this daunting task I am pairing an American M.D. with a Cambridge PhD in Public Health and Epidemiology, enabling me to understand both the clinical and theoretical aspects of my future work. As part of my PhD, I am currently working to define the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in sub-Saharan Africa and explore possible associations between HIV and NCD risk factors. This work takes me to Blantyre, Malawi, where I have lived for the past year designing and implementing a population based cohort study in collaboration with the Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust.

Ms Bela Dimova

Bulgaria • 2011

course in cambridgePhD in Archaeology,
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

While growing up I was fascinated by Bulgaria's multi-layered past and the mysterious culture of ancient Thrace, which weaves together myths and beautiful golden objects. Critical archaeological research, which I will undertake through my PhD, is the best way to understand that complex past and use it to build a future of inter-cultural tolerance in the Balkans. I graduated from an International Baccalaureate school in Paris which taught me about the challenges and value of inter-cultural communication. I pursued my interests in human diversity and in past societies by reading Archaeology & Anthropology at Cambridge, and Archaeology of the East Mediterranean and Middle East (MA) at UCL. I organised an ethnographic expedition to Cuba, co-edited a student anthropology journal, and excavated in Bulgaria, Britain, Sardinia, and Turkey. I am determined to pursue a research career, addressing burning issues of identity-making and heritage.

Interests: Besides archaeology and anthropology, I also enjoy learning languages, cookery, caving, and mountaineering.

Miss Yama Dixit

India • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences, St John's College

previous universitiesJawaharlal Nehru University
University of Delhi

I graduated with distinction in Chemistry from Delhi University and did my Post graduation in Environmental Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University. At Cambridge, I aim to study whether environmental change was indeed the reason for the collapse of Harappan Civilization by reconstructing the paleoclimatic history of the region. My research at Cambridge should shed light on the nature of the patterns interrelating climate and civilizational activities.

Interests: Apart from being a trained Kathak (Indian Classical dance) dancer, I am an ardent fan of movies. I like spending time with my family and friends.

Ms Justine Drennan

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in International Relations,
Selwyn College

previous universities

Princeton University
Oxford University



For my MPhil in International Relations, I'm looking at Uighur and Han ethnic interactions in China's Xinjiang region. Focusing on the Chinese government's recent demolition of Kashgar's Old Town, I'll explore the different groups' perceptions of identity and culture in the area. Why did the government demolish the Old Town? What did the Old Town mean to Uighur residents? To Hans? Are these perspectives reconcilable? I'll look into the role that respective players' political and economic power, international presence, and organization do or don't play in these perceptions.

Interests: Writing, running and other outdoors things, music, media, history, mythology, language(s), word games.

Dr Elizabeth Dzung

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Sociology, King's College

previous universities

Johns' Hopkins University
Stanford University



I am a physician interested in the broader interactions of sociology and political economy on health. Upon completion of my internal medicine training at Columbia this past year, I began a combined PhD in Sociology and General Internal Medicine fellowship at Johns Hopkins, to further explore the greater effects of political, economics, and business practices on health. In particular, I hope to explore the power structures within the US health care system and the influences of large capitalistic institutions such as biotech, pharmaceuticals, insurance companies, and other businesses on health in the United States.

Interests: rowing, volleyball, music (piano, viola), tennis, riding horses, traveling

Mr Lucas Edelman

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Science @ Babraham
Institute, King's College

previous university

University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign



I grew up just outside of Chicago in Glenview, Illinois. I studied Bioengineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where I performed research in cardiac physiology, magnetic resonance imaging, and computational genetics. At Cambridge I am conducting graduate studies in the field of 'epigenetics', examining the role played by molecules known as 'Noncoding RNA' in the control of developmental processes and human disease.

Interests: Reading, running, learning to row, politics and current events, baseball, American football – and learning to appreciate European football.

Miss Natalia Egorova

Russia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Biology,
Lucy Cavendish College

previous university

École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences
Sociales



Having a diverse but mainly Arts background, at Cambridge I shifted to Sciences, pursuing a PhD in Biology at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit. I have always been interested in how people use language in context (pragmatics), and what mechanisms in the brain underlie contextual enrichment. Therefore for my PhD I chose to explore the neural correlates of speech act processing, thus contributing to the emerging discipline of neuropragmatics.

Interests: Languages, traveling, literature, piano, coffee, people.

Mr William Eucker

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

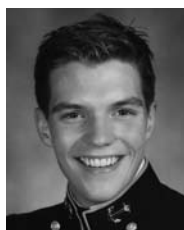
PhD in Polar Studies, Peterhouse

previous university

United States Naval Academy

I am a junior naval officer and member of the Arctic Ocean Geopolitics Programme at the Scott Polar Research Institute. Recently, I have been exploring the increasingly dangerous gap between national and international maritime governance structures in the ice-diminishing Arctic Ocean. After my studies, I will serve in the U.S. Submarine Force.

Interests: Playing squash, skiing, rowing, running, swimming, traveling, eating, picking berries, making and savoring akvavit, collecting coins.

**Mr Dankrad Feist**

Germany • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Girton College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Technische Universität Darmstadt

I am just starting to work on my PhD on Topological Solitons, which we use as a model for atomic nuclei. I had a very good time doing Part III in Cambridge and learned a lot. I expect the coming three years to be equally stimulating, both for my work and my other activities.

Interests: Mathematics and Physics, cello, sustainability, hiking, cycling, running, rowing, dancing, computers.

**Mr Luke Fletcher**

Australia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Politics & International Studies, St Edmund's College

previous university

University of California (Berkeley)

I have come to Cambridge after working for the last few years as an advocate on International Development Issues. My main areas of work have been past and current Australian aid and trade policy towards developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region and the impact of mining, oil and gas on developing countries and communities. I have also done some advocacy work on reform of certain global financial markets and institutions. For my PhD I hope to explore generally the origins and history of globalisation and international development, with a particular focus on the forces and institutions that produced the predominance of a particular model of development thinking.

**Miss Molly Fox**

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Anthropology, Gonville and Caius College

previous university

Yale University

I've been researching the evolution of post-menopausal longevity in humans. My collaborators and I have amended the popular "Grandmother Hypothesis" with a genetics perspective, and have found a sex-specific mortality trend in grandchildren based on X-Chromosome relatedness with grandmothers. Here at Cambridge I plan to continue studying the evolution of life-history traits affecting humans at the earliest and latest stages of life.

Interests: Theatre, writing, music.



Ms Mercedes Galindez

Argentina • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Latin American Studies,
Lucy Cavendish College



While studying History in Di Tella University (Buenos Aires), I took part in a research project for the Argentinean Board of Scientific Research. Its aim was to explain the use of mass culture and printed media in the hands of Catholicism during the 30s in Buenos Aires. This experience provided the base for my current research in the M Phil in Latin American Studies, which deals with the role media played in the building of President F.D. Roosevelt's image in Buenos Aires and Montevideo during his term of office. I have chosen Cambridge University to carry out the research in the hope that it will provide an objective environment being outside the American continent. I am passionate about writing, from short stories to large essays. I hope to become a solid communicator, and thus help the understanding of Latin America. In the meantime, I write a blog about my experience as an Argentinean in the UK: <http://ponchogown.blogspot.com/>

Interests: Journalism; languages; cooking; yachting.

Mr Jan Gaspers

Germany • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in International Studies,
Pembroke College



previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Sussex

University of Maastricht

My PhD thesis examines the socialising effects of the European Union (EU) foreign policy regime on the behaviour and identities of EU member state diplomats within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). I also continue to conduct research and have published various pieces on different aspects of EU-NATO cooperation, the OSCE Corfu Process, the European External Action Service and the evolution of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy. In the past, I have worked inter alia with the OSCE Section of the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna, the European Union Institute for Security Studies, the OSCE and the European Centre for Development Policy Management.

Interests: Tennis, swimming, travelling, theatre, opera, ballet, exhibitions and various strands of fictional literature

Mr Christopher Geissler

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in German, Jesus College



previous universities

University of Cambridge

Columbia University

I am finishing work on my dissertation, 'A Distinctly German Mission: Slavery and Abolitionism in German Writing, 1789-1871', which explores how the crafting of German national identity was both implicated in and impacted by the globalized context of European colonialism of the nineteenth century and its complicated twin, international humanitarianism. I come to German studies from my first degree in Middle East & Asian studies at Columbia. In between I held a fellowship at the University of Leipzig and worked for several years in New York City in the health field.

Miss Talia Gershon

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Materials Science, Clare College



previous university

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Hello, fellow Gates Scholars! Born and raised in New York, I completed my BS in Materials Science and Engineering at MIT and am now going into the third year of my PhD at Cambridge (in Materials Science and Metallurgy). My research focus is inexpensive solar cells, which absorb light and convert it directly to electricity. As you might already know, the solar cells you find on the market today are too expensive to be cost-competitive with coal-based electricity, so we are trying to develop alternatives (ask me about this!). I also play rugby on the Cambridge Blues squad and encourage all who are interested to consider giving it a go! It's a great opportunity to meet a lot of new people and try playing a sport that is probably brand new to you.

Interests: Renewable energy, solar cells, rugby, mountains, sunshine, vegetables, exotic fruits, friends, and all combinations of the above.

Ms Linda Gichuyia

Kenya • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Environmental Design in Architecture, Hughes Hall

I recently completed a Bachelor of Architectural studies and Bachelor of Architecture degrees from the University of Nairobi and I am profoundly humbled and honored by being one of the 2011 Gates scholars. I am excited to continue my studies at Cambridge where I will be pursuing an MPhil in Environmental design in architecture. I wish to focus my study on the Impact of Buildings on Climate Change seeing that evidence suggests that buildings under construction and in use play the greatest contributory role in global warming. I am keen to investigate this to PhD level since with regard to the global warming debate, little if any attention has been paid to the construction industry as a source of CO₂ emissions, compared to the much attention that has been focussed on the role of transport and industry in their contribution to global warming.

Interests: Sharp shooting, making new friends, traveling, reading and watching detective literature, photography and swimming, design and definitely watching discovery channel.

**Ms Girija Godbole**

India • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography, Fitzwilliam College

previous university

University of Pune

I have done graduate and post-graduate degrees in botany and anthropology respectively. Following that I did a certificate course in environment education. I want to study the causes and effects of rapid changes in the access to and availability of natural resources and its impact on the socio-cultural and economic scenario in Western India. It will help me to contribute in finding solutions to reduce the adverse impact of these changes on the poor and marginalised people in India. Having worked at the grassroots level I aspire to work at the policy-making level in India. The valuable insights gained at the field level and academic training at Cambridge will better equip me to achieve this.

Interests: I am interested in theatre and the Indian classical dance form, kathak, in which I have undergone training for almost seven years. I have participated in street plays and also kathak dance performances. I completed 'C' certificate of National Cadet Corps Air Wing during college. I am a Fellow of the international network Leadership for Environment & Development (LEAD).

**Mr Hanns Goetzke**

Germany • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Zoology, Hughes Hall

After graduating from Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, with a Bachelor of Science in Physics, I moved to Cambridge. At the University of Cambridge I have been studying theoretical physics for the past year. Now, having just started my PhD in animal physiology, I am very excited to investigate some of the biomechanical principles of jumping insects. My research interests are in adhesion mechanisms, especially those of insects that can jump off smooth surfaces. I hope to use nature's principles to improve technology.

Interests: I like playing volleyball, rowing for my college and windsurfing. I enjoy modern and contemporary art and especially like photography.

**Dr Rajna Golubic**

Croatia • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Epidemiology, St John's College

previous university

University of Zagreb

I am now in the second year of my PhD at the MRC Epidemiology Unit. The focus of my PhD is physical activity (in particular occupational domain), its distribution in different occupational groups and associations with cardiometabolic risk factors, diabetes type 2 and cardiovascular disease. I am using the data from large-scale epidemiological studies that are being conducted by the Unit and their international collaborators. The findings of my PhD will help identify the groups of workers that need encouragement to increase their physical activity outside working hours and will to the development and implementation of public health strategies that target primary prevention of non-communicable lifestyle related diseases among workers by advocating activity and healthy diet at work.

Interests: Public health, occupational medicine, health promotion, epidemiology; ballroom dancing, salsa, running, foreign languages, traveling.



Ms Sherry Gong

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MAST in Pure Mathematics,
Churchill College

previous university

Harvard University



My main academic interests are in algebraic geometry and differential topology. Most recently, I have been working on a research project about the cyclic cohomologies of finitely generated, torsion free subgroups of $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$. I also enjoy teaching mathematics; I have done this as a grader at the Math Olympiad Program, and also as a leader for the United States team to the Girls' Math Olympiad. In addition, I coordinated at the Math Olympiad of Central America and the Caribbean when it was held in my home island of Puerto Rico. I intend to attend graduate school and obtain a Ph.D. in mathematics with a concentration in algebraic geometry. After this, I would like to pursue a career as a mathematician and engage in research and teaching. As a preparation for these career plans, I would like to study algebraic geometry at Cambridge. There, I also hope to gain a broader view of mathematics, which would allow me to become both a greater researcher and a more effective teacher.

Mr Igor Gotlibovych

Germany • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, Churchill College

previous university

University of Cambridge



In 2010 I started the first year of my PhD in the Atomic, Mesoscopic and Optical Physics group in the Cavendish Laboratory. My research will concentrate on studying novel aspects of Bose-Einstein Condensates (BECs) – dense atomic clouds at extremely cold temperatures unmatched anywhere in the universe. While creating BECs is a significant experimental challenge, they exhibit many properties found in other complex systems, e.g. superfluidity. Studying BECs ultimately leads to better understanding of superfluids, superconductors and collective phenomena in general.

Interests: Sailing, Climbing, Judo

Ms Julia Gottschalk

Germany • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences,
Homerton College



I finished my undergraduate studies in Marine Geology at the University of Bremen – a leading institution for marine geosciences. During my studies I had the opportunity to participate in several multinational research projects and sea-going expeditions all over the world dedicated to study past changes of our climate and the ocean. I became passionate about climate research also in the face of its socioeconomic and political importance. I am currently enrolled in the first year of my PhD studies at the Department of Earth Sciences focusing on the global signature of past abrupt climate change recorded in marine sediments. Particular emphasis will be put on changes in biological productivity and the ocean circulation in the South Atlantic Ocean to explain the millennial-scale variability of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The study is supported by analyzing further climate archives as ice cores and cave formations as well as numerical climate simulations.

Interests: I love being outside especially running long distances, gardening and mountaineering. Among many other activities I enjoy swimming, singing and playing guitar.

Mr Philip Graff

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, Queens' College

previous university

University of Maryland (Baltimore County)



At Cambridge, my PhD in Physics focuses on Einstein's theory of general relativity and its implications. I am studying the application of Bayesian inference for the detection of gravitational waves. I am also looking into theoretical predictions for primordial gravitational waves as remnants of the Big Bang. This work has potential for opening a new window onto our Universe and providing direct observations of the earliest moments in our Universe's history.

Interests: Baseball, American football, ultimate Frisbee, hurling, traveling.

Ms Jennifer Grayson

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Selwyn College

I just graduated from Brown University this past May, and I am excited to begin my MPhil in Middle Eastern Studies at Cambridge. My research will focus on a group of manuscripts written in Judeo-Arabic, which are housed in the University Library's Taylor-Schechter Genizah Unit. I am particularly interested in issues of cultural and religious identity in the medieval Islamic world.

**Revd Kevin Grove**

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Divinity, Trinity College

My home and family are in Montana; my undergraduate degrees were in Seattle and my master's at Notre Dame in Indiana. After finishing my master's degree in 2009 I was ordained a Holy Cross priest (Holy Cross is a Catholic religious order that does work around the world in education) and served in parishes in South Bend, Indiana for two years. These years helped me to refine my thinking on the need for the theological research I am undertaking in my doctoral program here at Cambridge. I am working on the problem of theological memory, forgetting, and its implications for forgiveness.

Interests: Reading, jogging, music, skiing.

**Mr Andrew Gruen**

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Social & Political Science, King's College

previous university

Northwestern University

This year I am in the field, studying what "viability" means for born-digital, accountability journalism producing news organizations. After I finish data collection, I hope to write a "cook book" for what kinds of resources people need to successfully launch new, quality news enterprises.

Interests: Technology, social media, news, choral music, travel, Korea, food of all sorts, and the subsequent need for jogging.

**Miss Katie Gunderson**

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences, Jesus College

previous university

University of Oklahoma

My PhD research focuses on developing nuclear waste forms based on naturally-occurring mineral structures. I am studying isostructural and isoelectronic zircon and xenotime, which have very different responses to radiation damage. The methods I use include doping samples with plutonium to observe radiation effects over time, and investigating the effect of alpha-particle damage on crystal structures. With this work I hope to provide insight into the basic mechanisms of radiation damage and to determine why some mineral phases are more radiation resistant than others.

Interests: travelling (especially hiking in the Alps), cooking, American football, undergraduate teaching



Ms Berenice Guyot-Rechard

France • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Trinity College

previous universities

London School of Economics
Sciences Po Paris



I was born in Paris but grew up in Brussels, where I received an international education which gave me a passion for the world and for languages. Through my studies, travels, and work experience I developed a passion for India, and in particular its history and politics. My PhD focuses on India's north-eastern borderlands in the transitional period after independence. Unlike the rest of India, this mountainous, tribal region had been largely un-administered and unexplored under colonial rule. My objective is therefore to understand how the young Indian state tried to re-shape this strategic area, located between India and China, into a part of India's national space. My intent is not only to study a region that is marginal both in reality and in scholarly literature, but also to offer some insight into its troubled present.

Interests: Too many to mention! Above all, languages and visual arts, from Indian miniature painting to printmaking.

Miss Paula Haas

Germany • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Social Anthropology,
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

previous university

University of Cambridge



Before coming to Cambridge, I studied Chinese and Mongolian Languages and Cultures at Venice University (Italy), and worked in Outer Mongolia for two years following my graduation. During my stay in Mongolia, I often realised how deeply people's everyday life is conditioned by pervasive mistrust. For my PhD I thus study Mongolian ideas of trust, mistrust, and cooperation, how trust is established, maintained, and broken, how and why trust is so often abused and with what consequences, and what role gender plays in the creation of trust and mistrust. I have just come back from a year of fieldwork in a small rural community of Barga Mongols in Inner Mongolia, China, and will now start to write up.

Interests: Reading, learning languages, music, fencing, hiking.

Ms Lisbeth (Jamila) Haider

Austria • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Geographical Research,
Downing College



I am currently doing an M Phil in Geographical Research, with a focus on Political Ecology. Specifically, I am analyzing adaptive co-management patterns in a Joint Forestry Management project in Tajikistan. My research interests are broadly related to studying variables necessary for transformation in social ecological systems, spurred during my time with the Aga Khan Development Network in Tajikistan and Afghanistan, where I coordinated a Cross Border programme, and later worked as the National Natural Resource Management Programme Coordinator. Also, I am writing a small book "Bo dastoni khud – With our hands": A Book of Food, and Life, in the Afghan and Tajik Pamirs, which tells the story of a rapidly changing cultural and physical landscape and invokes memory as a platform from which to envision the future.

Interests: Travelling, running, yoga, dancing, writing, blogging, gardening and climbing trees.

Ms Katie Hammond

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Multi-Disciplinary Gender
Studies, Wolfson College



I am at Wolfson College working on my M.Phil in Multi-Disciplinary Gender Studies under the supervision of Martin Johnson. My academic interests involve the examination of issues of social justice and human rights through a legal lens, particularly in regards to their impact on societal groups disadvantaged by class, gender, and sexual orientation. My research is based off a volunteer experience working in a slum house in Bangalore India. I am examining whether policies preventing women's egg sale are protecting women from entering into non-autonomous choices, or whether they are inhibiting them from a mechanism of money gain. In particular, I am looking at women's motivations for egg donation in jurisdictions where eggs sale is not permitted.

Interests: My interests include swimming, tennis, travel, kayaking, camping and music.

Mr Nicholas Handler

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Historical Studies,
King's College**previous university**

Yale University



I graduated from Yale University in 2009 with a B.A. in History. I wrote my senior thesis about a small group of left-wing lawyers who defended anarchists in sedition trials during World War I, and spent a year after graduation working for Professor Beverly Gage on her upcoming biography of former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover. I am interested in the history of political responses to Communism in the 20th century, and next year I will pursue an MPhil in Historical Studies, focusing on the difference between British and American attitudes towards domestic Communist movements.

Interests: Running, reading, exploring new cities, football, and cartoons.

Ms Gitte Hansen

Denmark • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Asian and Middle Eastern
Studies, Wolfson College**previous university**

University of Copenhagen



My research deals with femininity in Japanese culture and cultural expressions. I am especially interested in women as agents of violence – violence towards the self (eating disorders and self-harm) and violence towards others. I work on a wide range of cultural expressions including Murakami Haruki's literary works and Miyazaki Hayao's animations.

Interests: cooking, going to the seaside.

Mr David Harris

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Advanced Chemical
Engineering, King's College**previous university**

Auburn University



At Auburn University I was an active member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), Cupola Engineering Ambassadors, and the University Honors College. I have conducted undergraduate research with biomaterials and in vitro cell culture to help design safer and more effective drug eluting stents. I also participated in two summer programs, including the Summer Institute in Anatomy at Johns Hopkins University and the NSF REU in Cellular Engineering at Rice University. I was named a Barry M. Goldwater Scholar in April of 2010. My plans are to eventually pursue a combined M.D./graduate degree and have a career in translational medical research. I am particularly interested in biotechnology and the medical device industry. At Cambridge, I plan to study for an M Phil in Advanced Chemical Engineering to broaden my knowledge of these fields and obtain more experience in research and entrepreneurship.

Interests: Running, juggling, traveling, history, French, college football, and coaching elementary school Science Olympiad.

Miss Eva-Maria Hempe

Germany • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, St John's College

previous universities

University of Regensburg

University of Erlangen

University of Cambridge

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität



I am interested in questions around knowledge creation and management, organizational learning and the influence of contextual settings. My research focuses on healthcare services, more specifically the design of services for people with learning or intellectual disabilities. However, I hope to be able to draw general conclusions for public services to inform policy making.

Interests: travel, sports (rowing, cycling, refereeing soccer, skiing, swimming, running ...), outdoor activities, cooking

Miss Melissa Hok Cee Wong

Canada • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Music, Queens' College

previous universities

McGill University

Columbia University



My dissertation, tentatively titled "Tracking Pop: A History of Cover Versions, Remixes, and Mash-ups," seeks to illuminate problems of authorship, creativity, and performance in popular music and explore how these issues have shaped and been shaped by business, legal, and technological concerns. I am currently pursuing ethnographic research for this project in the music community in Toronto, Canada.

Interests: Piano, songwriting, reading, languages, travel, public transit, cities, Berlin

Mr Jared Holley

Canada • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Social and Political Sciences,
Trinity Hall

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Victoria



My PhD focuses on the reception of classical atomist philosophy in eighteenth-century France and its deployment in philosophical debates concerning the nature of politics and citizenship. I am particularly interested in the impact of Epicurean and Lucretian themes on the political thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Interests: Surfing, music, philosophy.

Ms Hanna Hornberg

Sweden • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Physiology, Development and
Neuroscience, Pembroke College

previous university

Uppsala University



My research in Cambridge will focus on how nerve cells navigate correctly from the eyes to their targets during the development of the visual system. I am particularly interested in the role of local protein translation and degradation in axonal pathfinding and will focus my research on its role in the later stages of visual system development.

Interests: Travelling, skiing, music, films, reading and keeping up with international politics.

Mr Johnny Hu

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Biological Science,
Darwin College

previous university

Harvard University



During my year of studies in Cambridge, I will be investigating the role of local protein translation in axon guidance. I am working in Professor Christine Holt's lab and am using fluorescence imaging to visualize the transport and localization of the different machineries necessary for protein synthesis. We are also interested in the different signals in the cell that turn on and off these different processes. Looking ahead, I hope to continue pursuing neurobiology research as well as teach at the university level. I am fascinated by the neuron and how its actions lead to information processing and decision making. We still have much to learn, and I hope to contribute to the understanding of these amazing cells.

Interests: Basketball, piano, swimming, sailing, rowing.

Mr Yang Hu

China • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Sociology, Queens' College

I am from Chongqing, a beautiful mountainous city in China. I completed my B.A. in English Language and Literature in Zhejiang University, China. My interests in the themes of growth, socialization, family, gender roles, etc. in literature and my experience as a volunteer to the local schools brought my focus to the family studies, and the inter-generational relations in particular. In China, where the school education is highly standardized, family is one of the most important spheres that are accountable for the production and reproduction of social inequalities. For the current MPhil, I'm working on how family social class influences the out-of-school activities of children aged 12-14 in China. For my PhD, I will focus on the inter-generational reproduction of cultural capital in the divorced-motherhood in China. I hope my researches could effect policy implications to eradicate the inequalities the children are faced with due to their family background.

Interests: Music (especially jazz), playing the clarinet, badminton, reading, travelling, volunteering, poetry, family and friends.

**Mr Timothy Humpton**

USA • 2010

course in cambridgePhD in Oncology,
Corpus Christi College**previous university**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Cancer is a global disease that will touch most people in some way during their life. Although we have made good progress in identifying and treating many types of cancer, for others progress has been much slower. The five-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer, for example, has remained pegged at only 5% for decades. It is my goal to help to unlock key the mechanisms behind cancer initiation and progression in pancreatic cancer and to translate this research into something valuable for actual patients. I've come to Cambridge in order to pursue this goal. The lab that I'm working in here is one of the few in the world where basic research into pancreatic cancer is conducted side-by-side with work to apply emerging science directly to pancreatic cancer therapy. This represents a unique situation where I will hopefully be able to make a real difference against a deadly disease.

Interests: Aside from science, I am a cyclist who competes seriously in both road racing and track (velodrome) racing. I'm also extremely interested in cooking and the science behind making great food.

Mr Isaac Idun-Arkhurst

Ghana • 2005

course in cambridgePhD in International Relations,
St John's College**previous university**

University of Ghana

My research examines a comparatively neglected aspect of China's ambitious post-Cold War expansion into Africa: whether an authoritarian capitalist power can aid the economic and political development of poor, democratising societies and under what conditions such development diffusion would occur.

Interests: Creative writing, African and Asian cultures, football, volleyball, travelling, and ping pong!

**Miss Ioana Ilie**

Romania • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, Queens' College

previous university

Jacobs University, Bremen



Diving deeper into educational theory and practice has been my goal for 2010 and the beginning of the new academic year has sparked a lot of thoughts and plans for action, a fresh perspective on my research topic and a renewed desire to become more involved in the educational landscape of my home country.

Interests: Singing, traveling and coffee

Ms Darja Irdam

Estonia • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Modern Society and Global Transformations, Hughes Hall

Born in Sillamäe, Estonia, I graduated from Tallinn University, Estonia and Koç University, Turkey. As president of the student council and a member of Estonia's Youth Parliament, I carried out many social and educational projects for marginalized people, abandoned children, alcohol and drug addicts, ethnic and social minorities. I have closely worked with migrant enterprises in four European countries and I continued my research at MiReKoç, the Centre for Migration Research at Koç University. At the University of Cambridge I study socio-cultural marginalization and how people recreate their status through shuttle migration and suitcase trade between the post-Soviet states and Turkey. Some of my professors changed my life with their teaching, support and guidance. Therefore, I want to be a professor to help young people find their ways in life. I hope to make people believe they can create change and improve not only their own lives, but also the lives of others.

Interests: Apart from my academic interests, I am also a passionate tailor, I love cinema, baking and reading.



Mr Muhammad Irfan

Pakistan • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Land Economy, St John's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (Tokyo)

University of Punjab

Before coming to Cambridge for MPhil Development Studies in 2007, I was working as a Civil Servant in Pakistan – involved in multilateral negotiations at the WTO and part of the Trade Policy formulation team. Through my present research on the Political Economy of WTO negotiations, I am finding ways for poor countries to make effective policies for economic development. I will initially return to my job in Pakistan but hope to contribute globally through my work in international organisations.

Interests: Sports (cricket, tennis, squash, swimming and rowing), foreign languages and cultures, travelling, cooking, poetry, politics and public speaking.



Mr Noah Isserman

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography, Gonville and Caius College

previous university

Amherst College

After completing a research MPhil in Geography, I am continuing my work as a PhD student. I focus on the provision of capital and support to social enterprises. More specifically, I study "venture philanthropy," a high-engagement form of philanthropy that is explicitly based on venture capital concepts and practices. Outside of my academic pursuits, I am involved with some fantastic start-ups and consult in the social profit sector with Washington, DC-based Common Ground Consulting.

Interests: Playing football/soccer as often as possible, entrepreneurship, organisational growth and strategy, and cooking (with remarkably variable results).



Miss Amna Jabeen

Canada • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Anthropology, Downing College

previous university

McGill University

What processes were involved in the evolution of the modern human brain and cognition? How can we study such processes? The material culture studied by archaeologists to understand the cognition and mind of early humans are the art objects left by people of early cultures. Some of the earliest examples of art belong to the European Upper Palaeolithic – a culture spanning between 30,000 to 10,000 years. The human subject in this art has been a controversial topic due to its supposed poor quality of execution and has led to numerous debates about the dichotomy observed in the graphical depiction of animal vs. human subject. Human figure is one of the fundamental subjects in modern society as it is one of the first figures drawn by children. Therefore what can we learn about the perceptual processes of the Palaeolithic people with regards to the human form. Was this schemata stable for the entire Upper Palaeolithic as proposed for the animal figure or did it change from phase to another?

Interests: The human body and its depiction throughout the various historic and prehistoric ages, 18th century British Art, Islamic and Indian art especially the calligraphy and manuscripts, visits to planetarium, and anything related to evolution.



Mr William Jacobs

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Chemistry, Emmanuel College

previous university

University of Virginia



I recently graduated from the University of Virginia with concentrations in physics and computational materials science. At Cambridge I will be applying computational methods to the study of molecular recognition and multicomponent mixtures in Professor Daan Frenkel's theoretical chemistry group.

Interests: Cycling, bicycle touring, running, jazz piano

Ms Jargal Jamsranjav

Mongolia • 2009

course in cambridge

MPhil in Geographical Research, Corpus Christi College

previous university

National University of Mongolia



After graduated as a biologist, I worked on a UNDP/Wildlife Conservation Society funded field research project on Mongolian gazelle. I then managed Darwin Initiative's research projects on wild plants and animals and spent a year in Cambridge as a Chevening Scholar in Biodiversity at the UNEP-WCMC. I provided an assessment of protected areas in East Asia, focusing on the relationships between key threatened species. After I returned to Mongolia, I worked as host country counterpart for the Darwin Initiative project in Mongolia. I won a Whitley Award for International Conservation to study "Sustainable natural resource use and livelihood improvement" in Gobi desert. At Cambridge, I will study the complex relation between society and depleting natural resources. This will give me an opportunity to put my practical experience of the conflict between nomadic herders and wildlife to finding a conservation solution in an academic context.

Interests: I enjoy reading, yoga and clothing design. I held a gold medal in Mongolian traditional dancing.

Miss Iwona Janicka

Poland • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in French, Trinity Hall

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität

Seoul National University, South Korea

Université Paris Sorbonne – Paris IV, France



My PhD project sets out to examine the return to the category of the universal in chosen strands of contemporary French and North American literary theory. I wish to reflect on the possibility of establishing what I call transformative ethics i.e. a mode of thinking that can be considered as a political tool for social change. I am interested in the contemporary developments in the Western philosophy and I am curious to see what will follow postmodernism.

Interests: Making jewelry, painting in oil, rock and punk concerts, Czech music by J. Nohavica, table tennis, listening to Trójka, punting, Korean food, Berlin.

Miss Smruthi Jayasundar

India • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Surgery, St John's College

previous universities

Sri Ramachandra University, India

Ethiraj College, Chennai, India



My doctoral research at Cambridge University is in the rapidly advancing field of stem cell biology focussing on understanding the early stages of development of haematopoietic (blood) stem cells. My long-term career plan is to carry out clinically useful research and thus contribute significantly not only to science but also society at large.

Interests: I am a professional Indian classical dancer and an eloquent speaker. I also draw, paint and make traditional handicrafts. Other interests are designing, all forms of dance, music, reading, socializing.

Mr David Jiménez Torres

Spain • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Spanish, Clare College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Washington University in Saint Louis



My interests lie in the crisis in Spanish politics, society and identity that begins after the loss of the last remaining colonies in 1898. They also lie in the ways in which we as Spaniards can form a modern conception of what being Spanish means. This new conception should come from a re-evaluation of the Spanish liberal tradition and of its relationship with those of England and the United States. For all these purposes, Ramiro de Maeztu is ideal: of the generation of intellectuals of 1898, and all the way until the Spanish Civil War, he was the one most interested in the Anglo-Saxon world. He was very concerned with the institutional and cultural problems of Spain, and for a while tried to apply the English model to them. Maeztu can help us understand why Spain devolved towards the gradual breakdown of institutions and the radicalization that led to the civil war, instead of taking the path of progressive and consensual reforms of the Anglo-Saxon model.

Ms Emily Rose Jordan

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Experimental Psychology,
Corpus Christi College

previous university

Columbia University



I study the neuroscience of drugs of abuse, focusing on how the environment an individual lives in interacts with genetics to create risk factors for addiction. In particular, I am interested in how social factors influence drug taking, and I use an animal model to test how social stress modulates cocaine self-administration. I pair these behavioural techniques with neurochemical analyses within the brain to try to elucidate how the brain controls addiction and can be shaped by experiences.

Interests: Science, food, and travel are my three passions in life. In my free time I maintain a science themed Twitter, which you may find entertaining (@drsciencelady) and I also enjoy working on my food/travel blog (thingswheatthatweliked.wordpress.com).

Miss Anastasiia Kamenska

Ukraine • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Biochemistry, Wolfson College

previous university

National Tara Shevchenko University
of Kiev



I got a lifetime opportunity to work towards a PhD degree in Biochemistry, the field that inspires me the most. I strongly believe that our better understanding of the mechanisms that regulate translation of proteins in cells can have a tremendous number of implications. I hope that the unique experience Cambridge Department of Biochemistry provides will help me to develop as a cutting-edge scientist. I am excited to become a part of a powerful Gates Scholars network and want to commit and gain the most of it.

Interests: I am passionate about travelling, dancing, scuba-diving, food/cooking, fashion, languages, music and chocolate.

Miss Alexandra Kamins

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

MPhil in Veterinary Science,
Selwyn College

previous university

Emory University



Even as we understand more about medicine, we have only unearthed more questions about the true causes of disease. As a global health community, we're starting to explore the vast web that impacts each and every existing and emerging disease; there is no escaping the threads that span countries and even species. I'm only just beginning this journey, but I hope that everything I learn and discover will contribute to our ability to sustainably improve the lives of all species worldwide.

Interests: Adventures! I love my horse; the chance to travel; reading and writing, which really are just traveling of a different kind, drawing, science and art.

Ms Erin Kara

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Physics (Astronomy),
St John's College**previous university**

Columbia University



I'm currently in Cambridge studying for an MPhil in Physics from the Institute of Astronomy. There I am working with the Cambridge X-ray Astronomy group, researching the broad iron K – and L – emission lines from Active Galaxies, in the hopes of better understanding the turbulent environment surrounding the central black hole. It is a great privilege to study and live in Cambridge, and I am continually impressed with the traditions, the community and the caliber of education that this university offers.

Ms Anna Kathryn Kendrick

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Spanish, Emmanuel College



Hailing from the city of Boston and educated in Cambridge, MA, I moved to the UK in 2009 to teach history, English, and Spanish at Shrewsbury School, Shropshire. Having completed the Cambridge MPhil in European Literature last year, focusing on philosophies of education in early twentieth century Spain, I am now embarking on a PhD project examining cultural pedagogy in interwar Spain and Germany. My academic interests lie in European nexuses of intellectual transfer: journals and periodicals, academics and institutions, philosophical and psychological writings; and their impact on collective moral and ethical thought in times of crisis.

Interests: Wonderful Cambridge & Gates friends, Emmanuel College ducks, cycling in the Fens and beyond, rowing (Radcliffe Crew, Cambridge Blue Boat 2011), hiking, languages, charity shops, markets, cellos, chapels, the English sun.

Ms Brianne Kent

Canada • 2011

course in cambridgePhD in Experimental Psychology,
St John's College

I am thrilled to be starting my PhD at Cambridge. My interest in neuroscience research developed while I was an undergraduate at Simon Fraser University, and since my focus has been on the neurobiology of learning and memory. While at Cambridge I will be studying the role of neurotrophic factors in memory formation as well as in the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Interests: Dance, travel, hiking, skiing, backpacking, and anything else that gets me outside!

Ms Marie Kolkenbrock

Germany • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in German, Trinity Hall

previous university

Freie-Universität Berlin



In my PhD I will examine a crisis of masculinity as a nexus of the representation of gender and anti-Semitism in Arthur Schnitzler's narratives. As theoretical framework, I will use a psychoanalytical approach, which has been one of my main interests for quite a while. I am also looking forward to working with Schnitzler's papers that are stored in the University Library of Cambridge.

Interests: Psychoanalysis, gender studies, literary theory. In my spare time I enjoy going to the theatre, from classic plays to improvised shows. I also love exploring cities on foot.

Mr Eric Koskinen

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Computer Science,
Jesus College

previous universities

Brown University
College of William and Mary



I began my career as a software engineer working at Amazon.com. I returned to academia in order to study ways to improve the correctness of computer programs, which has undoubtedly become important in an age where mission-critical software is pervasive. I am currently finishing a PhD in Computer Science, and will soon begin a Research Scientist position at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences (NYU). The Gates scholarship has provided me with a unique opportunity to study theoretical computer science in Cambridge, among many leaders in the field. My thesis is on techniques for automatically analyzing computer programs, using mathematics to prove their correctness.

Ms Simone Kotva

Sweden • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Divinity, Emmanuel College



I am research student in Philosophical Theology, and my research revolves around the thought of Gilles Deleuze and Friedrich Schlegel, and their reactions to and appropriations of Spinoza, pantheism and a vitalist philosophy of life.

Interests: Word-mongering: reading, writing, calligraphing and inventing new languages.

Ms Eszter Kovacs

Australia • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography,
Sidney Sussex College

previous university

University of Sydney



I finished my MPhil in Environment, Society and Development at Cambridge last year, and the following three years will see me extending my time here, pursuing a PhD. I plan to study the politics and science of the evaluation and monitoring of payments for ecosystems projects in Europe.

Interests: I take my sport very seriously, and I fenced at the Commonwealth Games in 2006. I love rowing and fencing at Cambridge, and other interests include reading new fiction, writing, languages and politics over good cake...

Mr Ramana Kumar

Australia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Computer Science, Peterhouse



Martin Davis wrote a book called "Engines of Logic" describing computers and their history. His title is accurate. But it is amazing how phenomena from video games to music engraving software emerge from, basically, physically realised arithmetic (it does, however, make the emergence of personalities from biochemistry seem more plausible). I'm interested in the philosophy of computer science. I am specifically working on mechanised logic: formalising mathematics using computers and, on the flip side, building logical models of computer systems, usually with an aim of improving their safety or security. I believe we can learn a lot about meaning by examining our use of computer systems, but there are many secrets hiding in plain sight.

Interests: Mainly music: viola, orchestra, string quartet, piano, singing, composition. Cambridge has so much to offer by way of societies. I joined, for example, dancing, punting, and tea society. I enjoy cycling and practising Mandarin Chinese.

Ms Patrycja Kupiec

Poland • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Archaeology, Trinity College

My research interests include the Viking expansion into the North Atlantic region, the applications of soil micromorphology to floor deposits in archaeological settlements, human impacts on landscapes, and the application of geoarchaeological methods to identify seasonal occupation of archaeological sites. My research focuses on testing application of micromorphological analysis of undisturbed floor sediments to detect punctuated occupation and to aid future research on seasonally occupied settlements and enrich our understanding of how past societies used, manipulated, and sometimes damaged their environment.

Interests: Books (I will read anything!), learning new languages, watching bad and good movies (hate mediocre ones!), museums, Viking Age, fashion

**Mr Niraj Lal**

Australia • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, Clare Hall

previous university

Australian National University

I commenced a PhD in Physics at the Nanophotonics Centre at Cambridge with Professor Jeremy Baumberg in January 2009, and I'm loving it. My topic is "Nanovoid Plasmon-Enhanced Photovoltaics" – using some new physics to make solar cells more efficient. I think one of the biggest challenges of our generation is to understand our planet's resources and develop ways to live with them sustainably. I'm enjoying researching a means of electricity generation that can be safe, clean and decentralised.

Interests: The environment, governance, science communication, and staying sane by running, surfing, playing music and football and getting into the bush.

**Ms W Victoria Lee**

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Architecture, Trinity College

previous university

University of Cambridge

I received my undergraduate and master degrees in architecture from MIT. At Cambridge under the MPhil program in environmental design, I investigated the relationship between buildings' ability to resist long and short term hazards. I am continuing my research as a PhD student. There is still a large gap in our understanding of the correlation between how well a building can resist earthquakes and how effectively it can protect its occupants from climatic elements such as hurricanes and cold winters. Yet over half of the world's population lives in places where such an understanding can greatly increase the quality of life, if not the odds between death and survival. In the future I hope to apply what I learn from my research to reduce risks in the built environment of disaster-prone areas.

Interests: hiking, visiting museums, cooking, music, photography, traveling, graphic design, reading, trying new things

**Miss Alexandra Leech**

Ireland • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Social & Political Science, King's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University College Dublin

My doctoral research is focused on integrating cognitive – and interpersonal-vulnerability models of depression amongst British adolescents. The study explores the validity of the relevant theories and the practical applicability of the adjacent therapeutic options for prevention and intervention of adolescent mental illness during times of significant transition. Preliminary results suggest the significance of rumination, stable attribution styles and parental support mechanisms. Qualitative data has highlighted the need for, and inadequacies of, current health promotion and maintenance strategies, and the potential for reformation of policy and practice. My career objectives are to gain further research and practical experience in the field of adolescent mental health so that I may progress towards establishing a best practice model for adolescent depression which is reflected in disseminated prevention and intervention strategies.

Interests: Outside the area of my studies, my interests include current affairs, travelling, volunteer work, literature, theatre and college sport.



Miss Julia Li

Canada • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, St John's College

previous universities

University of British Columbia
Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CA)



My passion in life is biotechnology and oncology drug development. I have pursued this passion from a young age and completed my undergraduate studies in Finance and Immunology. I am currently pursuing PhD doctoral research on financing global health. I examine "push" and "pull" incentives for the biotech/pharma sector to innovate for low and middle-income countries (base of pyramid markets). I believe in the power of both technological and social innovations to transform global health. I am co-founder of the African Innovation Prize (AIP) and started the London for Acumen Fund young professionals chapter focused on patient capital and social entrepreneurship.

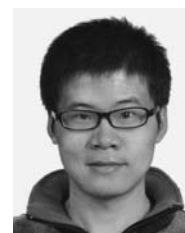
Interests: Habitat for Humanity International, volunteer at Beijing Olympics 2008, Vancouver Olympics 2010 – and hopefully London Olympics 2012! Other loves include music, dance, dark chocolate and Baroque art.

Mr Guangru Li

China • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Physics, Queens' College



I am just starting my first year of PhD in Physics Department. My subject will be on organic solar cells which are aiming to develop efficient and cheap way of converting sunlight into electricity. My potential specific focus may be on fabricating and optimizing different kinds of polymer/inorganic nanoparticle system, and then on new concepts such as singlet fission and energy transport at the edge of the band and how to use them to improve solar cells. My research experience on GaN photo detectors in previous 3 years will greatly help me to understand this new project.

Interests: travel, tennis, singing

Miss Meng Liang

China • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Asian & Middle East Studies,
Jesus College

previous university

Nagoya University, Japan



For my PhD study, I will conduct a case study of Chinese migrant workers in Kawakami village, Nagano prefecture. In specific, I will explore the framework of this form of migration, examine migrant workers' conditions and expectations, and elucidate the effects of this migration. I will engage in participant observation in both the Japanese and Chinese communities of Kawakami village, conduct narrative interviews with the villagers and the migrant workers, and conduct expert interviews with employers, village heads, neighbourhood associations, recruitment agencies, NPOs, and other key persons involved. In doing so, I hope to acquire a comprehensive understanding on the working and living situations of migrant workers in Kawakami village, and gain an insight into the impacts which might be brought to both the Chinese workers and the local Japanese community.

Interests: Music, Movie, Language learning, Piano, Swimming

Mr David Liebers

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in History, Philosophy &
Sociology of Science, Trinity College

previous university

University of Rochester



I am studying the legal, political and ethical consequences of advances in human genetics. I am excited to be pursuing a degree that allows me to study both (a) the history of evolutionary biology and its relationship to different political regimes and (b) how future data in behavioral genetics will reconcile with democracy, freedom and personal liberties.

Interests: Birding, Mets baseball, Giants football, boxing, political history, Poland, vado, cam'ron, cassidy, chopin and christopher lasch.

Miss Rachel Linn

USA • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in International Studies,
Trinity Hall**previous universities**University of Cambridge
Stanford University

I plan to pursue a career in policy research, specialising in the politics and economics of the Middle East and North Africa. For my PhD I am studying the comparative framing of mainstream Islamist movements in Tunisia and Morocco, while also working to improve my Arabic and French. In Cambridge, I am highly involved in my college – having served as the Trinity Hall MCR President and an Ents Officer. I also row in the Women's First VIII and serve on the boat club committee for THBC.

Interests: Languages, sports (esp. rowing, football and marathoning), politics, pubs, music and travel.

Mr Max Liu

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Medical Science (Medical
Genetics), Churchill College**previous university**

Cornell University



Over the next year, I will be pursuing research with Drs. David Rubinsztein and Angeleen Fleming exploring the roles autophagy, a cellular recycling process, plays in the nervous system in normal and diseased states. Currently, I plan to work on two aspects of autophagy: its role in the development of the nervous system and its function in clearing protein aggregates. I hope that during my year here, I will be able to contribute to our understanding of the functions of autophagy in the brain.

Interests: I enjoy cooking, photography and travel, and jogging

Mr Steffen Loesch

Germany • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Computer Science,
Trinity College**previous university**

Saarland University



My PhD is about computer programming language semantics. This involves mathematically defining what a program does, thereby being able to prove things about its behaviour. More specifically, I work on denotational semantics for concurrency. I believe that in the not-too-distant future, every safety-critical program will not just be tested to work, but proven to be correct. Disasters caused by program errors such as the explosion of the Ariane 5 rocket in 1996 will be a matter of history. Hopefully my research will help to get a small step closer to this ultimate goal.

Interests: I like skiing, long-distance running, football, squash, youth work, student politics, listening and making music, watching movies and reading newspapers.

Ms Corina Logan

USA • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in Experimental Psychology,
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)**previous universities**Evergreen State College
Skagit Valley College

I have always found the study of animal behavior most inspiring, thus I was excited to conduct my PhD in the Comparative Cognition Lab at Cambridge. I investigated how birds in the crow family (corvids) support each other after stressful events and whether this support serves to reduce stress.

Interests: tango dancing, hiking, tropical biology, adventure, vegan food.

Mr Eduardo Machicado Murillo

Bolivia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Archaeology, Queens' College

I graduated from Universidad Mayor de San Andrés in La Paz, Bolivia in 2003 and received my professional licence in 2008. Before coming to Cambridge I worked with the German Archaeological Institute (DAI-KAAK) and the University of California, Berkeley in archaeological expeditions that took me from the Titicaca Basin to the Amazon Forest. Last year I completed an MPhil in Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge. In that time I set the groundwork for my PhD research in the Llanos de Moxos, eastern Bolivia, on the development of early complex societies in the Amazon Basin. I hope that my work will help reveal the unknown history of the present indigenous communities and have a positive impact in developing policies for future heritage and forest management. Parallel to my research I work at FFMV, a small non-profit organisation, that aims to support young Bolivian scholars and promote free access to research resources in the fields of Music, Arts and Social Sciences.

Interests: History and Archaeology, Latin American Politics, Social Theory, Heritage Management, Contemporary Art, Music, Literature, Technology.



Mr Raghu Mahajan

India • 2011

course in cambridge

MASt in Applied Mathematics, Trinity College

This year in Cambridge, I am doing a one year taught masters in Theoretical Physics. My primary interests are in String Theory and all aspects and applications of Quantum Field Theory: whether it is high-energy physics, condensed matter physics or cosmology. My undergraduate research can be described as an attempt to understand phases of matter when the interactions between particles are very very strong, like in High-Temperature Superconductors. I am also really interested in International Development and Education in India at all levels, and look forward to networking with people working in the field.

Interests: I enjoy doing Recreational Math and reading History and humourous fiction. I like to run, hike and play badminton. I enjoy Indian and Western Classical Music, Punjabi Folk and pop music. I also enjoy cooking, but only in the company of other people.



Mr Luke Maishman

Ireland • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Pathology, Wolfson College

previous university

Trinity College Dublin

In October 2010 I started a PhD in Pathology at Cambridge. I am working on trypanosomes, the parasites that cause African Sleeping Sickness in humans and Nagana in cattle and other livestock.

Interests: Swimming, cooking, chilling with friends, visiting London.



Miss Aditi Malik

India • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in International Relations, Newnham College

previous universities

Northwestern University
Franklin and Marshall College

This year at Cambridge, I will be pursuing the MPhil in International Relations. My research interests lie in the study of post-conflict states, with an emphasis on the study of political violence, post-violence nation-building and reconciliation. I have conducted field research in Cambodia and Rwanda and am particularly interested in examining the limits and varied contributions of legal and non-legal approaches to reconstruction efforts.

Interests: Traveling, playing the piano, cricket.



Mr Andrew Marin

USA • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in Materials Science,
Churchill College**previous university**

Georgia Institute of Technology



I am in the second year of my PhD in Materials Science researching photovoltaic devices. Outside of the lab I am highly involved in Cambridge's business-technology community. I currently lead Cambridge University Technology and Enterprise Club (CUTEC) – a society founded by Gates Scholars that links technical achievements from the university with business-savvy individuals around the world. It is great to be in a place that values turning scientific advancements into functioning products!

Interests: I am a huge sports enthusiast – ironman triathlete, marathon runner, wakeboarder, snow skier, and soccer player.

Mr Michael Marin

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

LLM in Law, Wolfson College



I am a lawyer by profession and most recently served as Law Clerk to the Hon. Mr. Justice Binnie of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Prior to this, between 2008 and 2010, I practiced in the area of general commercial litigation at a Wall Street firm. My experience working at the epicenter of the Global Financial Crisis made me realize the need fundamentally reform the governance and regulation of large financial institutions. To this end, I am pursuing a Master of Law and writing a thesis that I hope will propose a regulatory framework better suited to mitigating the systemic risks that materialized three years ago. In 2011, I became a Fellow of Action Canada, where I am studying the links between inequality and the knowledge-based economy. I am also President of the CAPE Scholarship, which helps people from disadvantaged backgrounds pursue professional studies. Upon completion of my studies, I will join the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Law as an assistant professor.

Interests: politics, economics, literature, travel, rugby, hockey.

Ms Cecilia Martinez Perez

Mexico • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Plant Sciences, King's College



I am interested in the way organisms evolve and the genetic basis behind these processes. My background is mainly ecological having worked with different groups such as crustaceans, protists, birds, oaks and cacti. This has given me a broad view of the way different organisms adapt to their environment. Now I will focus on plant evolution; what I like the most about this subject is the possibility to unveil the complex mechanisms that control the incredible developmental plasticity plants exhibit. In my PhD I'll be analyzing the evolution of floral morphology in snapdragon from a molecular and ecological perspective. This information will help us to explain how subtle changes in the developmental patterns of the organisms can have enormous consequences for life on the planet.

Interests: Ballet, figure skating, irish dance, jogging.

Ms Ramona Meyricke

Australia • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in Land Economy,
Corpus Christi College

previous university
Australian National University

I completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Applied Statistics at the Australian National University. After graduating, I worked at PwC in Australia, whilst qualifying as an actuary. My work and studies focus on financial risk management in relation to retirement incomes, employee benefits and welfare.

Interests: Broadly I am interested in public-private solutions for long-term social problems involving uncertainty.

Mr Marc Mierowsky

Australia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in English, Queens' College

This year I have started a PhD which seeks to re-examine the history of public poetry in Restoration and early eighteenth-century Britain. I am interested particularly in how the changing political context – in which public opinion gained political currency – altered the writing, publication and dissemination of poetry. What draws me to this era is the reciprocal relationship of politics and literature; literature was not just the principal medium for political discourse but indeed shaped many of the political debates of the era and was central to public life. This was an era in which the political invective was written by Dryden, Swift, Defoe and what they produced puts the negative attack ads of our own era to shame. Perhaps this discrepancy speaks to the distinctions between political philosophy, literature and polemic that have ossified in our own context.

Interests: Outside of English literature and political philosophy love comedy and will be attending as many Footlights productions that I can in my three years here.



Dr Marina Minic

Montenegro • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Clinical Biochemistry,
Clare College

previous universities

University of Belgrade
University of Novi Sad
University of Montenegro

I am a practising doctor in specialist training. In 2007 I had 3 months of intensive exposure to cutting edge research at the University of Cambridge, concentrating on the molecular genetics of insulin resistance. The project I helped to develop then, and will continue to work on during my PhD, aims to investigate the relationship between insulin and production of the fat cell hormone adiponectin, which has attracted keen interest as a marker of and potential treatment for diabetes.

Interests: I enjoy traveling and learning different customs, cultures and traditions as well as theatre, music, dancing and foreign languages.



Ms Silvia Montano Palomino

Sweden • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Latin American Studies,
St Edmund's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge
University of Melbourne

During my study in Melbourne, I took part in a project for resettlement of displaced rural communities in the Peruvian Andes. This experience reinforced an interest in post-conflict societies already developed through five years of active involvement with human rights NGOs in Stockholm. It also convinced me of the importance of researching transitional justice and the role of Truth Commissions in furthering dialogue and democracy. During my MPhil in Latin American Studies at Cambridge I looked at discursive narratives that emerged alongside the Peruvian Truth Commission's report. In my PhD I will attempt to expand this and explore the way in which bystanders understand/represent the conflict that tormented Peru during the 1980s/90s and its aftermath. I plan to work with non-profit organisations in Sweden and Peru, contributing to the development of strategies that allow a constructive and successful dialogue between the communities of perpetrators, bystanders, and survivors.



Mr Thabo Msibi

South Africa • 2009

course in cambridge

MPhil in Education (Thematic Route),
Pembroke College

previous universities

Columbia University
University of KwaZulu-Natal

I am currently registered for an MPhil in educational research, which hopefully will turn into a PhD at the end of my studies here at Cambridge. The focus of my study is on the relationship between sexuality and schooling, particularly exploring the experiences of learners and teachers deemed 'sexually deviant'. It is my hope that my study will offer possible interventions that will make schools safer spaces for all.

Interests: I am interested in issues of social justice and equity. I enjoy reading mystical books. I also do not easily shy away from a debate.



Mr Siza Mtimbiri

Zimbabwe • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, St Edmund's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Harvard University

University of South Africa



My doctoral thesis examines the psycho-emotional impact of HIV/AIDS on rural primary school students in Zimbabwe to find ways of intervention which will enable students to learn more effectively, despite the on-going epidemic. I hope this will bring a clearer understanding of how education is being affected – a prerequisite to educational planning that will be most effective in implementing meaningful change. I intend to return to Zimbabwe to improve the education of children in the rural areas.

Interests: I direct a charitable organization that aims to change children's lives through education and health provision. I like to run, play tennis and chess.

Mr Greg Nance

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Management,
Fitzwilliam College**previous university**

University of Chicago



In college I studied how geography influences international relations and wrote my bachelor's thesis on China's maritime environment and the strategic consequences. At Cambridge I am pursuing a masters in management through the business school to bolster my toolkit as an entrepreneur in the education space. I aim to create innovative solutions to the challenges facing America's education system. I come from Bainbridge Island, Washington, and plan to return when starting my entrepreneurial career.

Interests: running, hiking in the mountains, Seattle sports, harmonica, foreign policy, chess and bible study

Miss Georgina Murphy

Ireland • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Public Health and Primary Care,
St John's College**previous university**

Trinity College Dublin



Having completed my MPhil in Development Studies in Cambridge, I am now doing a PhD in Epidemiology/Public Health as a continuing scholar. My research is looking at the prevalence and distribution of noncommunicable diseases (such as diabetes, liver disease and hypertension) and their risk factors in rural Uganda. Noncommunicable diseases are thought to be an increasing problem in developing countries, yet little research is being done to investigate them in Africa. I hope that this research will give us a better understanding of the burden of disease and context-specific determinants. I'm looking forward to the opportunity of combining my knowledge of molecular medicine and development to further investigate the policy implications of the study outcomes. As I am directly contributing to the design, implementation and quality control of the study, I am currently based in Uganda and will continue to be here until October 2011 – exciting, but missing my fellow Gates Scholars!

Interests: I love learning about, discussing and debating global issues, reading, and travelling. I also enjoy art and water sports. I'm particularly looking forward to combining all the above during adventures in Africa over the next year.

Ms Muktha Natrajan

USA • 2011

course in cambridgePhD in Clinical Neurosciences,
Newnham College**previous university**

University of Georgia



My research interests currently lie in the field of neurodegeneration and discovering possible treatments for neurodegenerative disorders. Specifically, I am interested in looking at stem cell treatments for these disorders. I am currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Cambridge under Dr. Robin Franklin in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences. I will be working on a project dealing with the effects of age on the macrophage response to demyelination in a toxin-mediated mouse model of multiple sclerosis (MS). I will be partnering with Dr. Bibiana Bielekova at the National Institutes of Health and intend to study similar factors using samples from patients with MS. The part of the project performed in Dr Bielekova's laboratory (NIH) will attempt to translate the observations from the mouse model into the human system with the goal to define molecular and functional characteristics of monocytes that promote effective remyelination in MS patients.

Interests: Tennis, Travel, Reading, Singing

Mr Kevin Nead

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Epidemiology, Clare Hall

previous university

Stanford University



I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Florida where I was also on the varsity swimming team. Prior to arriving at Cambridge I was a third year medical student at Stanford University. During medical school I conducted research in cardiovascular epidemiology with a focus on biomarkers and genetic risk factors in peripheral arterial disease. My work in this area was both inspirational and instructive in that I realized my passion for this method of research while recognizing the necessity of a stronger foundation in epidemiological principles. At Cambridge I will obtain the practical training offered by a taught master's while further exploring cardiovascular disease treatment and prevention strategies through my thesis work. During my career as a physician-scientist I will use epidemiology to identify risk factors in cardiovascular disease in order to enhance our ability to predict individual disease risk, response to treatment, and disease outcomes.

Interests: Backpacking, hiking, skiing, swimming, traveling

Mrs Sara Neihaus

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Plant Sciences,
Gonville and Caius College

previous university

University of Florida



Originally from Wetumpka, Florida, I graduated from the University of Florida in 2005 with degrees in Mathematics and Environmental Science. After working for 5 years in land conservation, I am currently a first year PhD student in the ecology group in the Department of Plant Sciences. My fieldwork will take me to Panama, where I am investigating the relationship between soil nutrients, plant growth, and soil respiration through an ongoing leaf litter manipulation experiment in a tropical lowland forest. I aim to advance the understanding of how nutrients and carbon cycle through the rainforest, with applications for conservation and improving climate change models.

Interests: Hiking and other outdoor activities, cooking, travelling, literature

Mr Yifan Ng

Singapore • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Surgery, Churchill College

previous university

University of Cambridge



I started dabbling in science and research from 11, and won an award that year for my invention to aid the daily lives of people with rheumatoid arthritis. At 18 I won the Merit prize in the Singapore National Science Talent Search based on a biochemistry project investigating a particular enzyme in the venom of the poisonous Malaysian krait (*Bungarus candidus*). For my PhD I intend to work on stem cells and development, which complements with my clinical goal of becoming an obstetrician and gynaecologist – I wish to look at the developmental basis of subfertility and help couples everywhere bring their own little bundles of joy into the world.

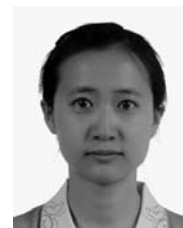
Interests: Outside medicine, my interests revolve around birdwatching and music, specifically DJing. In 2002 I produced a video entitled "Kingfishers of Singapore and Malaysia" to raise awareness about these beautiful birds in the region.

Ms Feilin Nie

China • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Natural Science (Chemistry),
Trinity College



I am starting my PhD study in Chemistry Department, in the area of Synthetic Chemistry and Chemical Biology. My academic interest is centred on finding new drugs to treat disease, in particularly using chemical methods and related techniques to discover biologically active compounds. Ten years of study and research in Pharmaceutical and Chemical related areas has given me a well rounded preparation of PhD study in Cambridge. The focus of my research is on Diversity Oriented Synthesis. My objective is to design and synthesise small molecules in a diversity oriented context. It is hoped that small molecules with novel biological activity will be discovered.

Interests: Tai Chi Martial Art

Miss Stella Nordhagen

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Land Economy, Queens' College

previous university

Middlebury College

After studying economics and physics/astronomy at Middlebury College, I did a fellowship in global health research at the Harvard Initiative for Global Health in Boston, Seattle, and Tanzania. At Cambridge, I have shifted focus towards the intersection of environment and development, particularly agricultural adaptation to climate change in developing countries. My work has taken me as far afield as Papua New Guinea, but the time in Cambridge has been some of the most rewarding. I've loved the stimulating company of Gates Scholars over the past two years and look forward to more to come!

Interests: Travel and the outdoors! Hiking, backpacking, climbing, skiing, distance running... Also politics, cooking/baking, folk music, and foreign languages.

**Miss Astrid Noren-Nilsson**

Sweden • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Politics, King's College

previous universitiesSchool of Oriental and African Studies
Uppsala University

I am pursuing a PhD in Politics researching nationalist projects in Cambodia from 1993 onwards. I hold an MPhil in Development Studies from Cambridge and a BA in Politics & Southeast Asian Studies from SOAS. I am also a research fellow at the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP). Previously, I have worked in Cambodia on issues concerning rural development and literacy promotion. I also work on a freelance basis as a political analyst on Southeast Asia.

Interests: Travelling; the fine arts; singing karaoke.

**Mr Toby Norman**

USA • 2011

course in cambridgePhD in Management Studies,
Sidney Sussex College

Originally from a small town called Cohasset in the United States, I recently completed my B.A. from Harvard and my MPhil at Cambridge. My passion is global health, and I've worked on a range of health initiatives in Kenya, Chile, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. My PhD research looks at the application of management science to health problems, specifically using randomized-control trial field experiments to test how different business models affect the access and impact of health services in rural India. I hope to combine my passion for global healthcare with the rigor of scientific management to improve the delivery of health services around the world.

Interests: Traveling, boxing, fencing, skydiving, and parliamentary debate

**Miss Amber North**

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Philosophy, King's College

previous university

Northwestern University

My PhD argues for and tries to strengthen a new emerging consensus about the foundation of morality: that moral objectivity stems from what is constitutive of human agency itself. The 20th century exhibited a sort of vertigo when it came to the search for a moral compass, due to a loss of religious morality and the rise of the scientific world view. But the "constitutivist" line takes these developments in stride, and provides a naturalistic understanding of how human action, human fitness, is performed via and premised on a commitment to morality. I try to strengthen this view by showing not only how this foundation is consistent with a scientific world view, but also how it is actually the logical conclusion of it. Our common sense view that morality is grounded in our humanity, and our scientific understanding of human action, amount to the same explanatory point of view when properly understood.

Interests: song-writing, hiking, spices, the northwest, travel, Flipboard, arts education, global health, philosophical and scientific understandings of faith practices, the role of the university in the 21st century, Kant, pragmatism, community development.



Mr Zachary Norwood

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MAST in Pure Mathematics,
Churchill College

previous university

University of Nebraska



After completing my BA in mathematics at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, I came to Cambridge to study Part III maths. My academic interests lie chiefly in mathematical logic, but one of the opportunities studying at Cambridge offers is exposure to a wide array of mathematical ideas. The breadth of knowledge with which I hope to leave Cambridge should allow me to converse more fluently with mathematicians of all sorts, enhancing both my understanding and the understanding of my students and colleagues. After I leave Cambridge I intend to pursue a PhD in mathematics.

Interests: mathematics, literature, music, coffee, games, language, animal rights & related topics, wine, computers, tennis

Ms Queen Nworisara Quinn

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Management Studies,
Christ's College

previous universities

Harvard University
Penn State University



I'm currently working on my PhD in Management Studies at the Judge Business School after recently completing my MPhil in innovation, strategy & organizational behavior. My research will focus on the emergence of social impact investing in frontier African markets and how perceptions influence the flow of capital towards these markets. I hope to develop research which helps to improve access to capital for African firms and entrepreneurs. I also aspire to teach students about entrepreneurship and hope that my research would prove beneficial in educating a new class of investors about investment opportunities in Africa.

Interests: Pilates, hiking, film, travel, West African and French cuisine.

Mr Gabriel Onagoruwa

Nigeria • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Law, Wolfson College

previous universities

University of Cambridge
University of Ibadan



I am very grateful to the Trust for funding my PhD research interest. My research is focused on the emerging framework for cross-border bank insolvencies and the contrast between bank insolvency and general corporate insolvency.

Interests: Music, soccer and traveling.

Mr Martin Otero Knott

Peru • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in History, St John's College



I am very grateful to the Gates Cambridge Trust for their generous financial support of my PhD in Intellectual History. My research centres on eighteenth century debates concerning the sociability of mankind – with a particular focus on questions regarding the foundations of morality and conjectural accounts describing the earliest stages of human development. My intention is to reconstruct this discourse of sociability as a means of reevaluating the philosophical contributions generated by some of the most exciting minds of the Enlightenment. In particular, I will focus on Adam Smith's contribution to these debates by exploring his reading of various 'new systems' of jurisprudence that were devised by continental scholars.

Interests: Progressive Rock

Mr John Ottem

Norway • 2010

course in cambridgePhD in Pure Mathematics,
St Catharine's College**previous university**

University of Oslo



I'm doing a PhD in pure mathematics at the DPMMS, Cambridge. My research field is algebraic geometry, a subject which deals with higher dimensional spaces defined by polynomial equations. Aside from my studies, I'm on the basketball team and enjoy playing my acoustic guitar.

Interests: Music. Guitar playing. Mountain hiking. Being tall.

Ms Olympia Papachristofi

Cyprus • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Biostatistics, Robinson College



After finishing with a Bsc in Mathematics from Imperial College London, I came to Cambridge to pursue further studies on Mathematics and especially Statistics. Thus, I first completed the MAST in Pure Mathematics where though I solely selected Statistics modules and I am now continuing with a PhD in Biostatistics. The project I will focus on deals with the assessment of the impact of learning curves, multiple operators and non-proportion hazards in clinical trials of surgical procedures and devices. Possible career paths I am considering after the PhD are doing research for my country's ministry of health or for the first medical school that is about to open in Cyprus.

Interests: Greek and Cypriot traditional dances, extreme sports like sky-diving, bungee jumping, zorbing, travelling, musicals, good food from around the world.

Mr Kris Parag

Trinidad and Tobago • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Trinity College

previous university

University of Sheffield



I studied Aerospace Engineering at the University of Sheffield (UK) with specialisation in Controls and Systems Engineering. I have now started a PhD in Controls in the Cambridge Engineering department. My likely focus of research will involve biological applications of control theory possibly at the molecular level.

Interests: Cricket, table tennis, archery, tennis, novels, video games, anime

Miss Meghana Patel

India • 2008

course in cambridgePhD in Clinical Biochemistry,
St Edmund's College**previous universities**Sheffield Hallam University
Gujarat University, M.G.Science College

Obesity, Type 2 Diabetes and metabolic disorders have reached epidemic proportions. The molecular mechanisms underlying the pathology of obesity and insulin resistance leading to atherosclerosis and heart failure are still not well understood. My research revolves around understanding the complex signals in the cells that lead to progress of obesity and atherosclerosis. I am thankful to Gates Cambridge Trust for providing me with an opportunity to work towards this goal.

Interests: Music, playing guitar, sketching, experimental cooking, reading, writing, watching movies and travelling.

Miss Kendell Pawelec

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Materials Science and Metallurgy, Pembroke College

previous university

Michigan State University



In the spring of 2010, I finished my Bachelors of Science in Materials Science Engineering from Michigan State University (USA). As an advocate of international study and exchange, I was more than happy to accept a place in Cambridge as a Gates scholar and member of Pembroke College. I plan to complete a PhD in Cambridge focusing on biomaterials – specifically researching architecture in collagen scaffolds. Besides lab work, I'm taking the opportunity to soak up all of the diverse culture that Cambridge has to offer and serving as Welfare Officer for the graduate community at Pembroke.

Interests: Besides materials science, art and music are my main interests. To display my art, I've started a website: <http://k-m-pawelec.artistwebsites.com>.

Mr Zhenwei Peng

China • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences, Jesus College

previous universities

Moscow State University

China University of Geosciences (Beijing)



My research is about how the crystallographic structure of iron-nickel alloy, its mechanical properties and phase transition vary with temperature, pressure, chemical composition and other conditions. I am trying to investigate those property variations by high temperature experiments, theoretical calculation and computational modeling. The motivation of this project is related to the fact that the Earth's inner core is believed to be formed mainly by the same alloy. It is therefore vital to understand the working of our planet, because all the globe-scale changes, such as earthquakes, are more or less related to the interior activities of our planet.

Interests: Photography, traveling, cooking, Russian language.

Mr Luis Perez

El Salvador • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Latin American Studies, St Catharine's College

previous universities

Princeton University

Portland State University

Portland State University

Portland State University



The Centre of Latin American Studies has welcomed me with open arms. After the warm reception from the Gates Foundation and my cohorts, this was a perfect way to begin the year and my studies at Cambridge. Thank you all! I am already schedule to present my current research on Che Guevera and Aesthetics in Cuba at St. Catharine's College, and am hoping to meet scholars who deal with political history, economics, (post)Marxism, (post)Colonial and/or Cultural Studies, Anthropologists working on post-Soviet societies and those working on the philosophy of power, specially in the Caribbean.

Interests: Avid rock climber, cyclist and footballer. Love to cook and wine tasting. A deep liking of visual arts (design, film/documentaries, photography).

Ms Nicole Person-Rennell

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Public Health, St John's College

previous universities

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

Arizona State University



I am a medical student at Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minnesota on a lovely public health academic leave, originally from Phoenix, Arizona. In pursuing a career as a public health physician, I hope to focus on addressing social determinants of health and women's health issues, whether through work with an NGO or with a government agency. In medical school, I have been privileged to work with clinicians in multiple research projects, including examining post-partum depression outcomes, family planning educational models, medical students' attitudes in service projects, and a humanities based anatomy project. I was also able to research domestic violence and public health in South Africa for one year as part of an undergraduate study abroad program focused on service learning; I have continued to work with women experiencing domestic violence in the Rochester community and focused a dance education project on domestic violence issues in Arizona.

Interests: I enjoy dancing with AZDance Group, a professional contemporary ballet company, playing my flute and singing with my church choir. I also hope to continue ballroom dance with my husband while in residence at Cambridge.

Ms Monica Petrescu

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Economics, Trinity College

previous university

Wake Forest University



Born in Romania, I lived in Vernon Hills, Illinois before attending Wake Forest University. I graduated summa cum laude in May 2010 with a BA in Economics and Political Science. In my economics honors thesis, "Income Inequality in the European Union: Determining Factors in a Decade of Expansion," which received the 2010 Wake Forest Economics Prize, I researched the impact of social, macro-economic, and political factors on within-country income distributions. In 2009 I won a Richter Research Grant to study labor migration and human trafficking in Kuwait. At Cambridge, I plan to pursue an MPhil in Economics, and focus on labor and migration, particularly within the European Union. Afterward I hope to pursue a terminal degree and work in academia or with an international organization such as the International Labor Organization.

Interests: I'm passionate about human rights and diversity work and was a leader in Amnesty International and the Interfaith Council at Wake Forest. I love learning languages and have studied French, German, Arabic & Italian; I am currently working on Russian.

Mr Matthew Phinney

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMASt in Pure Mathematics,
Darwin College

I am currently studying for Part III of the Mathematical Tripos (MASt Pure Mathematics). My main interests lie in applied and computational analysis, probability theory, and stochastic calculus. I am particularly interested in the design of efficient algorithms for the characterization of multiscale systems.

Ms Agnieszka Piasna

Poland • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Sociology, Queens' College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Warsaw University



Following my research with the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, I will study adaptations of work-life balance strategies in an economic downturn. I aim to contribute to a better understanding of labour market dynamics and transitions from work to non-work to improve future policy measures. I used to work as a communication consultant on campaigns addressing issues of exclusion and discrimination in the labour market – among others with the leaders of the Solidarnosc trade unions.

Interests: Backpacking, cycling, art films, design, photography.

Ms Katherine Pickard

USA • 2011

course in cambridgeMPhil in Social & Developmental
Psychology, Newnham College**previous university**

Harvard University



This year at the University of Cambridge, I will be receiving an MPhil in Social and Developmental Psychology under the supervision of Dr. Claire Hughes. During my time in Cambridge I will be working on Dr. Hughes' "Toddlers and Up" project, a longitudinal study that examines young children's learning profiles. By looking at young children with high levels of inhibition and social anxiety, I hope to compare their performance on executive function tasks to their more outgoing peers.

Interests: clinical psychology, swimming, running, reading, and being outdoors

Ms Suzanne Pilaar

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Archaeology, St John's College

previous university

Rutgers University



I earned a BSc in Evolutionary Anthropology and Paleoecology from Rutgers University in 2008 and a MPhil in Archaeological Science at Cambridge in 2009. My PhD uses zooarchaeology and stable isotope analysis to identify changes in human diet and seasonal mobility in response to environmental change from the Pleistocene/Holocene transition to the introduction of domestic animals and agriculture (11,000-7,000 years BP) in the Eastern Adriatic, working with Drs Preston Miracle and Tamsin O'Connell.

Interests: Travelling, hiking, kayaking, reading, writing, archaeology, natural history, human ecology and evolution, science education and public engagement.

Miss Hannah Pincham

Australia • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Experimental Psychology, St John's College

previous university

University of Sydney



I am completing my PhD in Experimental Psychology as a Gates Scholar under the supervision of Dr Denes Szucs. My research investigates the neural mechanisms of attention using electroencephalography. Over the past year I have had a great time trying to uncover the brain states that generate optimal or sub-optimal behaviour. After finishing my PhD, I will start my medical training in Sydney. I plan to specialise in paediatric neurology, and ultimately hope to combine both research and medical practice in order to enhance children's lives. I enjoy volunteer work and have been involved in a number of projects in Ghana, Kenya, and most recently Rwanda. In my spare time I enjoy swimming, team sports, travel and baking.

Ms Diana Pirjol

Romania • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Public Health, St Edmund's College



I have recently finalized my MSc degree in Management and Policy Analysis in health at VU University in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and I am now following the Mphil in Public Health at Cambridge. During this program I intend to combine the knowledge I have gained so far in the area of health policy analysis with public health. I am, more specifically, interested in the situation of Roma community in Europe and I hope in the nearby future I will be able to challenge the adequacy of the health care systems/ health policies/ strategies towards the situation of Roma, at the European Commission level. I am excited to be part of the excellent University of Cambridge Graduate School of Life Sciences and this would have not been possible without the generous support of Gates Foundation. Interests: I enjoy skiing, hiking, climbing, gliding and reading. My favorite topics include history, economics, politics and health.

Mr Andrey Poletayev

Russia • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Physics, Darwin College



In addition to all the others, the challenge of generating accessible and ecologically sustainable energy is paramount in today's world.

Developing economically scalable solar cell technology is the ideal answer to this challenge. This year, I plan on studying crystals of small organic molecules in the hope of creating a new, efficient and cheap photovoltaic. I want to take the best of both currently active areas of solar energy research: the stability and efficiency of traditional crystal technology, and the low cost and flexibility of organics.

Interests: climbing, orienteering, cycling, meditation and awareness, guitar.

Miss Nandhini Ponnuswamy

India • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Chemistry, St John's College

previous university

St Stephen's College, University of Delhi



Science has been my favourite subject since childhood. The logical way of reasoning and appreciating each and every aspect of Mother nature appeals to me and fills me with the desire to know more and more about her. Chemistry interests me the most. The mysteries of the colors, beautiful ring and cage structures always amaze me. Asymmetric synthesis, Biochemistry are my favourite topics. After my higher studies I want to work in the interface of chemistry and biology. For example, in the field of designing drugs and vaccines for diseases like cancer, AIDS, etc which pose a great danger to mankind. I'm really looking forward to Cambridge. It's a dream come true for me.

Interests: Apart from science, I like singing, my favourite being Indian music. I like playing volleyball, cycling, trekking and exploring new places. I also love to volunteer for social service activities.

Mr Oleksandr Poplavskyy

Ukraine • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Chemistry, Selwyn College

previous universities

University of Kyiv

Utrecht University



In Cambridge I read for the Certificate of Advanced Study in Mathematics (Part III). Having studied theoretical physics in Ukraine and the Netherlands, and worked as a Marie-Curie researcher in Orsay, France, I plan to expand my knowledge in probability theory, which became especially important for physicists with the invention of Stochastic Loewner Evolution (SLE, Fields Medal 2006 to W. Werner).

Interests: Besides doing research in theoretical physics, I like to spend time with my friends, travelling, and mountain backpacking. In the Netherlands, I also loved very much sailing a canoe through the picturesque canals of Utrecht. I had a lot of fun doing this together with my friends.

Mr Kiran Rachuri

India • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Computer Science, St John's College

previous universities

Indian Institute of Technology Madras
National Institute of Technology Warangal



I am a third year PhD student in the Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge. I work in the domain of smart phone based sensing systems. Modern mobile phones are equipped with many sensors like accelerometer, camera, GPS, microphone etc. and they can be used to capture various details about users automatically like accelerometer can be used to infer activity, Bluetooth to detect colocation, GPS to infer location, microphone to infer speech/noise. Mobile phone based sensing systems find applications in many domains such as social psychology, health care, and navigation systems. However, since mobile phones are battery-powered, continuous sensing from the sensors leads to faster depletion of the phone battery. My research is on energy efficiency of the smart phone based sensing systems.

Interests: Besides academia my interests include cricket, squash, and tennis.

Mr Ivan Rajic

Serbia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Land Economy, Darwin College

previous university

University of Belgrade



My main academic interests have led me to the Development Studies MPhil at Cambridge, which I finished in 2010. Being at Cambridge, and being a Gates Scholar, was, without exaggeration, one of the best experiences in my life. Once I finished my MPhil, I took a year off. I have now started PhD, at the Development Studies Centre, under the supervision of Dr Ha-Joon Chang. In my PhD, I will explore the political economy of state dissolution. This topic started off from my interest in former Yugoslavia, for which I hold that the "ethnic-hatred" and similar explanations for its dissolution are woefully inadequate. I wish to see whether political economy plays a far greater, but much less explored, role in the process of state dissolution (not only in the case of Yugoslavia). I consider myself a heterodox economist, and, besides my PhD, I also wish to use my time at Cambridge to do what I can to further reform in the economics academia.

Interests: development economics, economic history, political economy, economic methodology, economic theory, wide interest in the social sciences in general

Miss Kavita Ramakrishnan

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Geography, Queens' College

previous universities

University of California (Los Angeles)

University of Southern California



My PhD research focuses on "future" city discourses in Indian urban renewal projects and the implications for urban citizenship and identity. My particular interest is people displaced by the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi – through the lives of mobile migrant workers, I will explore notions of home, belonging, and future imaginaries.

Interests: Travel, dance, vegetarianism, social justice activism, cities, and my bike.

Ms Surabhi Ranganathan

India • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Law, St John's College

previous universities

New York University

National Law School of India



I have degrees in law from New York University (as an Arthur Vanderbilt Scholar); and the National Law School of India University, from where I graduated third with two gold medals. I am interested in public law, and public international law. From September 2006-2008, I was a fellow at NYU's Institute for International Law and Justice, where I combined programmatic and research responsibilities for projects on 'Private Military Companies' and 'Global Administrative Law'. At Cambridge, I will study the creation and mediation of conflicts between treaties with non-identical parties, and seek to develop an account of their systemic implications. I hope to graduate to a career combining teaching with policy-oriented research. Into this, I aim to channel previous research and work experience, including an Indian Supreme Court clerkship, internships at UNICEF and UNHCR, the Indian telecom regulator, an environmental action group, and research assistance to Professor Thomas Franck.

Interests: I enjoy long walks, reading, politics, history, coffee, word-games, movies, and writing. I maintain a blog, to discuss the use (and abuse!) of international law in films, at www.iilfilms.blogspot.com.

Mr Umang Rawat

India • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Economics,
St Edmund's College

previous university

St Stephen's College, University of
Delhi



As a student of Economics I have been fascinated by the sheer magnitude of influence this subject has on the world today. Therefore I decided to pursue it further as an affiliate student in the University of Cambridge. With the world becoming a global village, the fate of all the countries is interlinked. Through my studies in Economics I want to enjoy an experience that will help me delve deeper into the nuances of this subject, particularly the international linkages of the development process. Hoping that time spent here becomes some of the most cherishable moments of my intellectual odyssey.

Interests: Listening to music (mostly Indian), observing people, meeting new people and exploring new places and watching movies.

Mr Max Reibman

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Pembroke College

previous university

University of Cambridge



Having completed an M.Phil in History at Cambridge in June 2010, I am currently beginning a PhD and could not be more excited at the prospect of several more years in Cambridge. My main interest is the Middle East and the origins of American diplomacy in the region. I intend to use Egypt and, in particular, the major cosmopolitan city of Cairo, as a lens to examine the different groups of exiles, diplomats and intellectuals who convened there during the interwar years. I hope my research will challenge the existing narrative of the Middle East in the prelude to World War II and thereby lead to a greater understanding of how we came to the current diplomatic and political situation in the region. Aside from all things history, I captain the Pembroke College squash team, play ice hockey and contribute to the Cambridge Review of International Affairs. I am also an avid fan of foreign films. As a Francophile, I most enjoy those from the French and other New Wave movements.

Interests: History and languages, especially French and Arabic. Politics, global affairs, film, the New York Rangers and Michigan football.

Mr Mark Retter

Australia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Law, Trinity Hall

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of New South Wales

University of Sydney



Underlying all human rights is an intrinsic moral claim that all humans have a certain human dignity which is so fundamental that it ought to be respected. I am exploring why the underlying moral claims of human rights are important for positive human rights law. In particular, I believe there is a need to rediscover the underlying source of legitimacy of human rights through moral philosophy. The focus of my research will be on the right to freedom of movement. I will be looking at the law affecting freedom of movement, and also natural law philosophy, to explain what it is that constitutes the freedom of movement as a human right, and how it ought to be applied. In particular, I hope to explore how the right of a person to freedom of movement forms part of, and interacts with, the wider common good of a political community. I am hoping to use my research to pursue a career in human rights advocacy and academic scholarship.

Interests: Catholicism, philosophy, theology, history, law, learning, travelling, cricket, rugby, volleyball, friends and life

Ms Johanna Riha

Austria • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Public Health and Primary Care, Homerton College

I am half Austrian half Tanzanian and previously studied and worked in East and West Africa and the UK. Through the Gates scholarship I will pursue a PhD in epidemiology with a focus on urbanisation metrics and non-communicable diseases in sub-Saharan Africa.

Interests: Swimming, painting, reading, art exhibitions, partaking in festivals, traveling and photography.

**Ms Ann Robbins**

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Medical Science (Clinical Biochemistry), Homerton College

previous university

University of Chicago



For the next year, I will be studying for an M.Phil. in Clinical Biochemistry in Dr. David Savage's Laboratory at the Metabolic Research Laboratories. My project is focused on the mutations causing lipodystrophy, a disorder that results in an individual's fat tissue being malformed or nonexistent. The work I hope to accomplish will have implications not only for lipodystrophy, but for diabetes research as well. I am immensely grateful to the Gates Trust for allowing me this opportunity and for introducing me to my fellow Scholars, who are some of the most fascinating and compassionate people I have met.

Interests: swimming, baking, reading, learning to ride a bicycle on the left hand side of the road, exploring new places

Miss Caroline Robertson

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Psychiatry, Lucy Cavendish College

previous university

Columbia University



Before coming to Cambridge, I studied neurobiology, religious philosophy, and classical oboe at Columbia. I'm currently doing a PhD in neurobiology, with a focus on autism. Although autism is a disorder about which we know little, it seems to have roots in part of the brain that we understand quite well: the visual system. My research aims to exploit this intersection by targeting a consistent deficit in autism, coherent motion perception, using fMRI. I'm hoping that pressure on this sensory deficit will reveal a building block of higher level problems in the autistic brain, such as the commonly observed tendency in autism to "see the trees, but not the forest."

Interests: Many of my interests circle back to trauma: what it is and how people cope with it. I love music, running, cooking curries, writing, and reading.

Mrs Jennifer Saari

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, Trinity Hall

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Turku, Finland

Scripps College



My research focuses on how educational policies impact student persistence in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics related) fields. I am currently collecting data in Finland, Sweden and the United States. Within educational research my interests include quantitative methods and educational policy, particularly access to education and the relation of education to labor market, economical and social outcomes, both for the individual and for a society at large. Underlying this is a desire to clarify the boundaries between equity and efficiency in education, and a keen interest in the history and philosophy of education, particularly the evolving structures and aims of public education.

Interests: Outside of school and schools, my activities include urban gardening, cooking, dance, meditation, hiking and trying to learn multiple languages.

Miss Sukanya Sarbadhikary

India • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Social Anthropology,
Trinity College

previous universities

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences,
Calcutta

Jawaharlal Nehru University

University of Calcutta



My research interest lies in trying to appreciate the various articulations of popular religion and religious music in Bengal. On completing my studies in the University of Cambridge, I would ideally like to engage in an active research and teaching career.

Interests: Besides academia, an area of passionate interest to me has always been music. I have trained in Indian Classical Music for several years. Apart from classical music, I am also interested in semiclassical varieties and several forms of Bengali music, including songs of Tagore. I have made stage performances, performed on television and won prizes on several occasions.

Mr Jaya Savige

Australia • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in English, Christ's College

previous university

University of Queensland



My PhD examines the epistemic shift represented by the rise of the concept of risk (see Giddens, Beck et al) as it is rendered in Modernist literature, with a particular focus on the work of James Joyce. I was born in Sydney, and grew up on Bribie Island off the east coast of Australia. After withdrawing from an LLB/BCom double degree at the University of Queensland, I completed a BA dissertation on the nature of literary influence, which examined Shakespeare's influence on the poetry of John Keats. My first collection of poetry, *Latecomers*, was published in 2005. In 2007 I held a writing residency at the BR Whiting Studio, Rome, and have given poetry readings in Berlin, Prague, Milan, Sydney and London.

Interests: Surfing, poetry, amateur astronomy, Italy, modern art, photography, theatre, politics, cricket.

Ms Norma Schifano

Italy • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Italian, Clare College



Romance languages constitute a rich area of linguistic variation yet to be properly explored. The superficial similarities among varieties and the inheritance of a long-standing prescriptive tradition have contributed to keep the highly valuable internal variation of this family in the shade. The aim of my research is to explore one of the many puzzles of Romance, that is verb-placement, and try to provide a non-stipulative account for this phenomenon. The first step of my work will thus include the collection of as many data as possible, across a selection of both standard and non-standard varieties, in the strong belief that the theory must always be driven by data. Hopefully, my research will demonstrate the importance of looking at intra-Romance variation in detail, not only to achieve a more complete descriptive adequacy, but also because this may provide a challenge for those theoretical approaches whose adequacy crucially relies on the apparent homogeneity of this family.

Interests: reading, walking, rock n roll, yoga and tai chi

Mr William Schmidt

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Criminology, Trinity Hall

previous university

Yale University



I am currently conducting research in the Institute of Criminology for my PhD. Specifically, I am investigating the causes of wrongful convictions. My current project involves a quantitative examination of the causes of wrongful convictions in a sample of cases investigated by the Criminal Cases Review Commission, a public body tasked with overseeing claims of miscarriages of justice in the UK. After completion of my PhD, I hope to continue empirically evaluating legal practices in order to promote more effective criminal justice law and policy reform.

Interests: Travel, reading fiction and poetry, ballroom dance.

Ms Anna Kathryn Schoefert

Germany • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in History and Philosophy of Science, Downing College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Princeton University

University of Virginia



With the generous support of the Gates Cambridge Trust, I am starting my PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science. My doctoral research concentrates on mid-twentieth-century wet brain collections and material cultures in neurosciences, psychiatry, and neurology, illustrating the interdisciplinary and collaborative nature of brain-related research; the transnational context of locally produced knowledge; and the consequences of spatial arrangements of basic research, clinical practice, and industry-led studies. It aims to provide a desperately needed historical perspective for mid-twentieth-century medical collections in neuropathology, many of which have been dissolved, archived as museum collections, or re-investigated with contemporary methods in the last two decades.

Interests: Theatre and dance, landscapes and architecture, urban life, public humanities.

Mr Jeremiah Schwarz

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Wolfson College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

Fordham University



As a student of history, I believe in the power of ideas and active inquiry to transform the world. I was raised in New York City where I came to appreciate the role of diverse ethnic cultures in contributing to society. After graduating from Fordham University in 2003, I was commissioned as an officer in the US Navy and sent to the Persian Gulf and Horn of Africa. In 2007 I left active duty to pursue an MPhil in Development Studies at Cambridge, focusing on the role of political systems in aiding development of poor states. I am interested in the role of federalism in resolving ethnic conflicts within multicultural societies. In 2009 I will start a PhD at Cambridge, identifying the root causes of the failures of the federal system of government in the former Yugoslavia. I hope to use my research to create a body of knowledge that policymakers can use in resolving ethnic conflicts within existing nation-states. It is a privilege to work and to study at Cambridge University!

Miss Susanne Schweizer

Switzerland • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Biology, Clare College

previous universities

Maastricht University

Tilburg University



My research interests focus on understanding emotional disorders, in particular posttraumatic stress disorder. My PhD studies examine neural and psychological components involved in the regulation of emotion in individuals with emotional disorders. I am currently investigating whether training people's cognitive capacities increases their ability to regulate their emotions. We are looking both at the effects on a behavioural and neural level to detect the promises of such training for future treatment interventions. Hopefully, this work will have direct clinical implications for the refinement of psychological treatments. Indeed, focusing on this translation from basic science to the clinic in understanding emotional disorders will hopefully be the main theme of my PhD and beyond.

Interests: My studies apart, I am a certified dive instructor and love to discover the amazing underwater life. On land I enjoy exploring different parts of the world.

Mr Anand Shrivastava

India • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Economics (Research),
St Edmund's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras



My undergraduate qualification is in Mechanical engineering and before coming to Cambridge I was working as a Manufacturing Manager for Unilever in India. I had also worked for a few months with an NGO on the issue of human-elephant conflict, its economic impact on farmers and the efficacy of various mitigation measures. I decided to change my career path and study economics as I found that I had an aptitude for research and was interested in issues relevant to the social and economic problems facing India. I am particularly interested in the assessment of the costs and benefits of forest land, the variation in these costs and benefits across the population and the political economics of the conversion of forest land for industrial use. I completed a Graduate Diploma in Economics at Cambridge this year and am looking at the MPhil course as preparation for embarking on a PhD and conducting relevant and innovative research on these issues.

Interests: Reading, writing, playing musical instruments.

Mr Sukrit Silas

India • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Pathology, Trinity College

previous universities

University of Oxford
Princeton University



My research at Cambridge will focus on the link between helminth infections and atopy. Specifically, I will investigate the allergenicity of the *S. mansoni* homologue of tropomyosin – an evolutionarily conserved actin binding protein and cytoskeletal regulator that is known to be a major allergen in various foods. Through my work, I hope to gain a better understanding of *S. mansoni* pathogenesis, and of the molecular mechanisms of atopic disease. I am greatly excited to be working under the direction of Professor David Dunne, whose expertise in field-based research on invasive schistosomiasis in rural Africa, coupled with his use of cutting edge genomic and molecular techniques for the holistic and multifaceted characterization of the infection, presents a unique opportunity for the precise application of scientific insights at critical junctures as a means to developing effective and perhaps globally applicable public health strategies.

Interests: Music, History, Public Policy, Theatre, and this year – learning to dance.

Miss Megan Sim

Singapore • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Social and Developmental
Psychology, Sidney Sussex College

previous university

University of Southern California



I am passionate about helping children in the legal system. My current research examines what actually happens when juveniles are interviewed by police officers; in particular, I will examine the interrogation techniques used by police officers. I will investigate how these techniques are related to case factors such as the age of the child and offence type, the effectiveness of these strategies in relation to corresponding evidence elicited from the child, and case outcomes. Police interrogation tactics are a risk factor for juveniles making false confessions, and juveniles are overrepresented in the sample of proven false confessions. It is thus imperative that researchers focus the special considerations of working with children and teenagers, in order to continually evaluate policies concerning juveniles. Eventually I would like to develop safe and accurate methods of interviewing juveniles to ensure that they are appropriately represented in the legal system.

Interests: My other passions are the outdoors, music, art, food, and travel. I continue to enjoy rowing, hiking, spontaneous sojourns to the Continent, singing, knitting, photography, and cooking/baking up a storm.

Ms Aline Simon

Germany • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Biochemistry,
St Catharine's College

previous universities

Imperial College London
Technical University of Munich



I have recently graduated from Imperial College London with an M.Res. in Structural Molecular Biology after obtaining a B.Sc in Biochemistry from the Technical University of Munich in 2009. My decision to focus on the structural and biophysical aspects of biochemistry was influenced by two research projects in the field of DNA repair and RNA crystallography at the Immune Disease Institute in Boston, MA and at Yale University, respectively, in 2009 and 2010. At Cambridge, I am pursuing a PhD in Biochemistry, where I will have the opportunity to combine my previous research interests by structurally characterizing a protein factor that is part of the replisome progression complex (RPC) and thus is involved in DNA replication. With the dysregulation or dysfunction of RPC components being linked to genomic instability, I hope that my work in Cambridge will help to contribute to a better understanding of the mutual interplay of different RPC factors and to clarify their respective role.

Interests: I am interested in various outdoor activities, including but not limited to hiking, running and travelling in general as well as architecture and landscape photography and reading.

Ms Devani Singh

Canada • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in English, Emmanuel College

My interest in literature develops from a lifelong fascination with libraries and books. Guiding my doctoral research is the notion that we can better understand the literary texts we read if we interpret them as products of their cultural and historical moments. My project is focused on the late medieval poet Geoffrey Chaucer, and his reception in late sixteenth-century print. I study the ways in which this medieval author is rewritten by his later editors and commentators. From a material culture perspective, I am also interested in how the edited volumes of Chaucer produced two centuries after his death differ from, but also engage with, the manuscripts in which his works were first circulated.

Interests: All Literatures, cricket, desserts, Chaucer, travel

**Mr Sergey Sitnikov**

Russia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Veterinary Medicine, Trinity College

previous university

University of Cambridge

I am from Moscow, Russia. I got my first degree in Medical Physics in Moscow State University, Faculty of Physics. Doing my graduate research which was connected with brain injuries I decided to do my further studies in the field of neuroscience. Moreover cellular and molecular mechanisms of brain damage and regeneration became my main topic of interest. The project I am working on is connected with regeneration of glial cells of the brain. Our main goal is to figure out key molecules of this process to promote regeneration in the damaged nervous system. It will definitely lead to new approaches of treatment currently incurable diseases such as Multiple Sclerosis, Spastic cerebral palsy and others.

Interests: Outdoor activities, kayaking

**Mr Murat Siviloglu**

Turkey • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Peterhouse

previous universities

École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris

Bogazici University

I am mostly interested in social and intellectual history. At Cambridge, I am working under the supervision of Professor Sir Christopher Bayly on the construction of the public sphere and its effects on the emergence and diffusion of the new ideas in the Ottoman Empire during the second half of the 19th Century.

**Ms Catherine Sleeman**

New Zealand • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Economics, Christ's College

After studying economics at Canterbury University, I took an internship at the New Zealand Treasury where I helped to examine the impact of a proposed carbon tax on household poverty. Following an honours year, I joined the Reserve Bank of New Zealand where I worked in the Research and Modelling Teams. After four years, I moved to Cambridge to complete a Masters. In my thesis, I evaluated the accuracy of the Bank's forecast errors. I then joined Morgan Stanley as a UK macroeconomist, where I spent two years forecasting the UK outlook. I'm undertaking the PhD to further my understanding of microeconomics. My thesis focuses on the methods used to evaluate public policies.

Interests: I enjoy hiking with friends, I love baking and I'm an avid reader.



Ms Marjorie Sorensen

Canada • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Zoology, St John's College

previous university

University of Guelph



After a childhood discovering the wilderness of Canada's West Coast, I studied Environmental Biology at the University of British Columbia. I then began my MSc in Zoology at the University of Guelph where I studied the winter ecology of Cassin's Auklets, a Pacific seabird species that has declined by 80% since the 1970s. I am excited to be starting my PhD at the University of Cambridge in the Behavioural Ecology Group. My research will focus on the causes of population declines in Palearctic-African migratory bird species that travel between their wintering grounds in sub-Saharan Africa and breeding grounds in Europe and Asia.

Interests: hiking, bird watching, travel, photography, ice hockey

Ms Susanne (Frederica) Stahl

Austria • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Human Evolutionary Studies, Churchill College



At Harvard University I majored in the History of Science with a focus on Mind, Brain and Behavior. There my thesis analyzed the history of the pineal gland. The neuroendocrine though hidden between your brain hemispheres behind skin and skull, has light sensitive properties, which produced intriguing narratives about its evolution and function. This research as well as volunteer work at BMC's women's resource center sparked an interest in the biological and historical relationship between human and environment. How does our environment affect us? How do we become aware of these effects? In New York, I researched physician-industry relationships and dual-loyalties in military medicine at Columbia's Center on Medicine as a Profession. At Columbia's Memory Lab I explored metacognition of agency and failure. At the Cambridge, I will study evolutionary studies and research the underpinnings of theory of mind in order to grapple with the biological and evolutionary limits of perspective.

Interests: Outside of my academic work, I have been collaborating with three artists on a children's book about sustainable energy and innovation. My interest in conflicted relationships between individuals and their environments links these projects.

Mr Kevin Street

Zambia • 2009

course in cambridge

MPhil in Engineering, Selwyn College

previous university

University of Cape Town



I am currently undertaking an MPhil in Engineering which aims to model the effect of communication quality on design process performance and to establish potential applications, such as improvements in manufacturing. I believe this research course will be invaluable in the engineering industry, where I aspire to be an integral part.

Interests: Waterskiing, hiking, music.

Mr George Suleman Mgomella

Tanzania • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Public Health and Primary Care, Sidney Sussex College

previous universities

Harvard University

University of Dar es salaam, Tanzania



I was born and raised in Iringa, a small town in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. Iringa is known for the wildlife at Ruaha National Park, agro-forestry, tea and maize farming. I hold a Master of Public Health degree from Harvard University, USA and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. I am also a Certified Public Health professional by the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE), USA. I have recently worked as the Country Director for FXB-Tanzania. Prior to that, I worked as Research Officer at African Population and Health Research Center in Nairobi, Kenya. My work has span around research, M&E and technical assistance in the areas of: HIV and AIDS, reproductive health and health systems strengthening in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). I will be studying the burden of non-communicable diseases, their risk factors, their impacts on infectious and cardiometabolic risk factors, and diseases in SSA to inform policies and improve the well-being

Interests: I enjoying swimming, running for charity races and half marathons. Movies and reading storybooks help me to past time and relax. I like traveling and i am a very outgoing person.

Mr Luning Sun

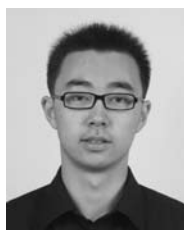
China • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Social & Developmental Psychology, Downing College

previous university

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität



My name is Luning Sun. Luning stands for two provinces where my parents come from. I was born in Qingdao, China, a beautiful city along the coast. I stayed in a boarding school for three years, before I was admitted into Chuko Chen Honors College, Zhejiang University. I spent one semester as an exchange student in Germany, and I enjoyed my life there very much, which is why I furthered my study in Munich after college. There I worked as a research assistant at a psychiatric hospital and got involved in various research projects, including both clinical studies on patients and behavioral experiments with normal subjects. Based on my interests in psychological testing, I applied for a PhD position at the Psychometrics Center, Cambridge. Fortunately, I was offered with the admission and granted with Gates Cambridge Trust. My plan is to look into the area of cognitive assessment and testing instrument, and probably develop my own test to help the huge population in China.

Interests: I like traveling a lot. During my Master study in Germany, I have been to 15 countries, and tasted all kinds of food and coffee. I am also good at cooking, especially Chinese food. It is always a pleasure for me to host a dinner for friends.

Mrs Claudia Tardelli Terry

Italy • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Italian, Downing College

previous university

University of Pisa



I studied Italian Literature and Philology at the University of Pisa and at the Scuola Normale Superiore. My main area of interest is Dante and the ancient commentaries tradition. In my research at Cambridge I will evaluate Francesco da Buti's commentary on Dante's 'Commedia' with particular regard to the historical and cultural context in which he composed his work, as we still lack a comprehensive and contextualized study of this vital aspect of his 'Commento'. I aim to make a significant contribution to our understanding of Dante's earliest reception, eventually supervising further research in this field.

Interests: reading, travelling, cooking, swimming, music, film, ballet.

Mr Jakub Szamalek

Poland • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Classics, Clare College

previous university

University of Oxford



First and foremost, I'm a Hellenophile – that is, I'm fascinated by the archaeology, art and history of Ancient Greece. Whilst in Cambridge I will study the material remains of Greek settlements in the Black Sea area. I'm particularly interested in the nature of the relations between the Greeks and the indigenous peoples inhabiting this region.

Interests: History of art, archaeology, evolutionism, sci-fi and fantasy, sailing, football.

Mr Cameron Taylor

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Italian, St John's College

previous university

University of California (Santa Cruz)



Most people are unaware that there are many Romance languages spoken in Italy evolving from Latin alongside Standard Italian. My research involves a comparative analysis of the syntax of these languages and finding out what the variation can tell us about natural language design. At the moment I am studying a variety called Nicoterese, which is spoken in the extreme south of Italy in Nicotera, Calabria. Apart from adding to the typological database of the structural properties of Romance languages, documenting little-known languages such as Nicoterese helps to preserve a small piece of history.

Interests: Libraries, harp, people, walking, writing

Miss Kerrie Taylor-Jones

Australia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Earth Sciences, Trinity College

previous university

University of Melbourne



A love of the outdoors, especially mountainous regions, combined with an intense curiosity about how such landscapes and their constituent rocks form, made geology an obvious career choice. During my time at Cambridge I will work on reconstructing, via mineral assemblage modeling, the metamorphic history of a continental crust terrain in the western Alps, as it was subducted into the mantle and subsequently returned to the Earth's surface. Aspiring to an academic career, I hope that through research, I am able to advance our knowledge of large-scale Earth processes – still so poorly understood.

Interests: I enjoy hillwalking, skiing, kayaking and rowing.

Miss Yvonne Tew

Malaysia • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Law, St Catharine's College

previous universities

Harvard University
University of Cambridge



Yvonne's desire to pursue a Ph.D. in Law focusing on constitutional law and human rights derives from two motivations: her commitment to the shaping of the legal landscape of developing countries, and a passion for the intellectual rigor of the law. She read Law as an undergraduate at the University of Cambridge, finishing with a B.A. in Law (Double First), and subsequently graduated from Harvard Law School with a Master of Laws (LL.M.). She has worked at the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York on internship and at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, as a tutor in Constitutional Law and as research assistant to its Vice-Chancellor. During her time at Cambridge for her Ph.D., she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Cambridge Student Law Review and as President of the Cambridge University Southeast Asian Forum.

Interests: Jazz, swing, film, salsa, literature, beaches, debating, and travelling.

Miss Elsa Treviño Ramírez

Mexico • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Latin American Studies,
Queens' College

previous university

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios
Superiores de México



I am interested in the productive influence that recent socio-historical transformations have had on the Mexican cultural and literary panorama: the 'neoliberal turn', the 1994 financial crisis, the democratization process, the Zapatista uprising and the massive growth of telecommunications. These changes, amplified by the impact of globalisation in Latin America, have been reflected in the novels of several writers born in the late 1960s. Springing from this concern, my current research focuses on notions of spatiality and geographic imagination in contemporary Mexican literature. I am looking at the works of Álvaro Enríque, Ignacio Padilla and Jorge Volpi and the way in which these authors propose new discourses surrounding space, place, identity and belonging.

Interests: Writing, literature, art, cinema, philosophy, cultural criticism, travelling and dancing.

Ms Allison Truhlar

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Biological Science (Zoology),
Churchill College

previous university

Cornell University



I am very excited to complete my MPhil with the University of Cambridge's Aquatic Ecology Lab, supervised by Dr. David Aldridge. My project will look at the ecological impact of an invasive shrimp in the United Kingdom and work towards creating a model that projects where the shrimp will be most likely to invade in the future.

Interests: A variety of racket sports (including tennis, badminton, racquetball, and squash), cooking and (more so) baking, reading, hiking, running, and (most recently) attempting to row.

Mrs Nadja Tschentscher

Germany • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Biology, Trinity Hall

previous university

University of Munster



Studying Psychology at the University of Muenster, Germany, I became very excited about fundamental questions of brain functionality. My PhD concerns the relationship between number processing and the cortical motor system. The way in which we process abstract knowledge such as numerical symbols is a highly topical field in current neuroscience. Research has found that a child's level of motor skill, such as performing complex finger movements, can predict arithmetic task performance. It is thought that a sense of numbers might be acquired through finger counting. I would like to expand on this field by investigating whether there are interactions between brain areas that initiate movement and those that are involved in performing simple and complex arithmetic tasks in adults. I believe my research will impact upon interventions for people with problems processing numbers and has theoretical and practical implications for teaching mathematics.

Interests: Feminist literature, hiking, sailing

Mr Alexander Vail

Australia • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Zoology, St John's College

previous university

James Cook University



This past year has certainly been a life altering and exciting one! It began by ushering in 2010 while paddling a dugout canoe in remote Sulawesi, undertaking a self-founded Australian Geographic sponsored expedition to raise awareness about living sustainably with fragile environments. After recovering from dengue fever it was off to South America to cycle through Patagonia and explore as much of the continent as possible, partially offsetting the costs by freelancing for Australian Geographic Outdoor magazine. However one of my most significant events of the year has been the generosity afforded to me by the Gates Cambridge Trust. The scholarship they have awarded me is now allowing me to do what I dreamed of: to study a PhD examining cooperative hunting and cognition at Cambridge. This is an immense privilege, and I plan to use what I learn to help positively influence public attitudes towards our world's imperiled natural environment.

Interests: Exploring and conserving the world's wild places, my family and friends, nature photography, free diving, swimming, scuba diving, trekking.

Mrs Danelle Van Zyl

South Africa • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in History, St John's College

previous universities

Leiden University

Universität Tübingen

Stellenbosch University

University of Stellenbosch



My PhD at Cambridge focuses on the interaction of identity politics, historical consciousness and collective emotion in the period of transition from apartheid to democracy in South Africa's recent past. By studying changes in discourse at different level of society and paying specific attention to the negotiation of power within a rapidly changing political, economic and social environment, I seek to gain insight into the historical experience of especially Afrikaners during this turbulent era. I hope that my PhD research into these matters will provide greater insight into developments in post-apartheid South Africa, in this way aiding the ongoing transformation process in my country.

Interests: Classical and contemporary music, hiking, cooking, ballroom and modern dancing, student ministry.

Ms Divya Venkatesh

India • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Pathology, Queens' College



In my PhD, I will be exploring fundamental aspects of parasite biology with Prof Mark Field at the Department of Pathology. The focus is on Trypanosomes, which are the causative agents of African sleeping sickness, a disease of significant mortality and morbidity. Trypanosomes are particularly interesting because in spite of being highly 'visible', they repeatedly manage to escape our sophisticated immune responses. My project will use a combination of cutting edge post-genomic as well as classical molecular biology techniques to study their endocytic and protein/lipid sorting systems, which help them periodically change what they look like (and hence confuse) our immune system. Apart from deeper insights into the parasite's mechanisms of immune evasion and the nature of its evolutionary divergence from other eukaryotes, it is likely that this study will yield novel drug targets for which there is a pressing need.

Interests: Books, film, travel, Indian philosophy, yoga. I like reading and thinking about Science in general and I'm interested in helping raise public awareness of Research. I write the occasional news piece for a life-sciences magazine called Lab Times.

Ms Halliki Voolma

Estonia • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Multi-Disciplinary Gender Studies, King's College

Having just completed the MPhil in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies here at Cambridge, I am now starting a PhD in the same field, building on my research to date on domestic violence against immigrant women. This topic brings together many questions/themes that I am interested in: the public/private divide in relation to domestic violence; violence against women as a human rights violation; immigrants' human rights; intersectionality. I am currently deciding where I will be conducting my fieldwork which will involve in-depth interviews with women survivors as well as stakeholders of the problem. I am new to the Gates community and am delighted to be part of this amazing group – I have already met many truly impressive and genuinely lovely people. Aside from my studies I am continuing training in competitive latin and ballroom dance and am very excited about competing at the latin formation world championships in December in Vilnius.

Interests: Competitive latin & ballroom dance, painting, running, massage, travel.



Mr Pongsiri Vorapongse

Thailand • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Politics and International Studies, St John's College

previous universities

Johns Hopkins University
Thammasat University

I believe that politics profoundly shapes life and democracy is an essential part of any genuine development. I am passionate with Southeast Asia, a region with rich diversity. In 2008, I was part of the SAIS team that led a cyclone-relief effort in Burma, in the process learning about various development challenges facing the country. In 2009, I led a team of SAIS students on a data-gathering research mission in Indonesia to examine the development impacts created by multinational firms such as Coca-Cola and Unilever. I have worked for the Bank of Thailand and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. At Cambridge, my research focuses on the role of contentious politics, particularly mass street protests, in consolidating Southeast Asia's fledgling democracies. I am a life-long fan of Tottenham Hotspur and also play football for St John's College.

Interests: Southeast Asia, travelling and football.



Mr Derron Wallace

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, St John's College

previous university

University of Cambridge

I am a Jamaican-American educator interested in the social protection of marginalised populations in the Caribbean and East Africa. The goal of my doctoral studies is to carefully identify and creatively counter the barriers that impede the educational advancement of disadvantaged groups.

Interests: I enjoy singing and arranging gospel music, watching Caribbean and Nigerian films, traveling throughout Southeast Asia, and laughing until my abdomen hurts.



Mr Alexander Walther

Germany • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Biological Science @ MRC CBU, Trinity Hall

Having a background in neuroscience, computer science and psychology, I am particularly interested in how neural information processing properties lead to fundamental perceptual and cognitive functions. I firmly believe that the elucidation of such processes requires a multimodal approach integrating complementary scientific techniques such as behavioral experiments, neuroimaging and computational modeling. As a byproduct of my research I aim to develop novel methodological techniques that I consider necessary for satisfactorily tackling my questions. During my PhD at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (CBU) I investigate the transformation of population-code representational similarity across the human ventral visual stream. The PhD program at the CBU gives me the opportunity to deepen my education in both systems neuroscience and methodological development on an outstanding level.

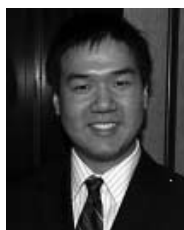


Mr Stan Wang

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Surgery, Trinity College

previous universitiesNortheast Ohio Medical University
University of Akron

Originally from Solon, Ohio, I graduated from the University of Akron, where I undertook my honours thesis in stem cell biology at the Cleveland Clinic. I have served on the board of two non-profits and been recognized by the U.S. Department of State, UNESCO, and Global Health Council for a programme I began to improve maternal-child health in rural Ghana. For my PhD, I am pioneering an affordable method of generating large quantities of patient-tailored pluripotent stem cells for study & therapy, without the destruction or even utilization of human embryos, effectively bypassing the on-going embryonic stem cell debate. After returning to the U.S. to finish medical school, I envision serving as a surgeon-scientist at the interface of medicine, science, and entrepreneurship. Through advances in stem cells, I aim to found a biotech company capable of innovating at the leading edge of translational regenerative medicine to improve health and quality of life of patients around the world.

Interests: An avid traveller, I have explored more than twenty different countries across five continents. I also enjoy playing piano and composing music, participating in triathlons, and learning new languages while trekking the globe.

Ms Chelan Weaver

USA • 2009

course in cambridgePhD in Biological Science,
Wolfson College**previous universities**St Andrews University
University of Oregon
Vassar College

At Cambridge University, I am pursuing my Ph.D. at the Medical Research Council Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit. My research has focused on understanding how people control their behavior. Because the capacity to stop undesirable responses is related to positive life outcomes such as academic achievement and health, I hope to make both theoretical and practical contributions. For my dissertation, I have tested whether two superficially different types of responses, thoughts and actions, are stopped using the same cognitive processes. I have also been investigating to what extent different types of stopping rely on common brain regions, and whether individual differences in ability to prevent unwanted actions is related to differing brain structure or connectivity.

Interests: I am passionate about increasing public understanding of science, and enjoy participating in outreach activities with people of all ages and backgrounds. Outside of science, I spend most of my time cooking, baking, reading, hiking and traveling.

Mr Jeffrey Watumull

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Linguistics, Christ's College

previous university

University of Cambridge



"Philosophy is written in this vast book, which continuously lies upon before our eyes (I mean the universe). But it cannot be understood unless you have first learned to understand the language and recognize the characters in which it is written. It is written in the language of mathematics" (Galileo). The Galilean ideal that the beauty of nature is definable mathematically is empirically verifiable in the uniquely human capacity for language. We are genetically endowed with the mental (computational) algorithms to generate linguistic expressions of technically infinite complexity (explicable in terms of set theory and algebra). To discover the mathematical laws that emerged in our evolution to govern the generative power of language is the desideratum of my research--research that would be impossible for me to conduct but for the Gates Scholarship with its audacity to suppose with me that pure science (pure mathematics) will ultimately redound to the good of nature.

Interests: The nature of the universe, subsuming human nature: Mathematics, language, computation, evolution, ethology (entomology), the brain sciences, philosophy. Mental exaltation: Stimulating discussion with fine wine/food. Physical excellence: Cycling.

Mr Orian Welling

USA • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Trinity College

previous university

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



My interest in alternative transport technologies started when I was only seven years old and I took my first ride in an all electric car. Now, 20 years later, I spend my days turning bolts and running tests on engines that I hope will power tomorrows most efficient vehicles.

Interests: Gates scholars, transport, long distance bicycle touring, traveling, tinkering.

Miss Tara Jane Westover

USA • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in History, Trinity College

previous university

Brigham Young University



I am interested in the collective aspects of liberal thought. Classical liberal thought is often associated with the “individualism” of thinkers of John Stuart Mill; however, when writing on morality, ethics, and religion, even Mill seems to include elements of collective thought that are comparable to traditional religion. My project explores the similarities between religious communalism and liberal individualism, two movements of thought that are often considered incompatible.

Interests: Cooking, folk music, dinner parties, guitar, politics, philosophy.

Mr Noham Wolpe

Israel • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Clinical Neurosciences,
Wolfson College

previous university

University of London (University
College London)



My interest in neuroscience research was awakened while doing pre-clinical medical studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, prompting me to take an MSc course at University College London. My main scientific interests are related to the conscious experience of voluntary action, an experience which is very different from that accompanying involuntary or reflex movements. This mainly arises from the natural perception that our actions occur as a result of our volition, which is embedded within our stream of consciousness. My research focuses on these aspects, and aims to further characterise the distinct behavioural features that are unique to voluntary action, and to further delineate its neural mechanisms.

Interests: I spend most of my spare time listening to music, learning languages, and enjoying various sport activities like football and tennis.

Miss Wang Ivy Wong

Hong Kong • 2009

course in cambridge

PhD in Social and Developmental
Psychology, St John's College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Hong Kong



I previously studied behavioural masculinisation in patients with a hormone-related genetic disorder. I am now interested in when and how sex differences in preferences for pink and blue emerge, as well as the consequence of such colour preferences on toy choice. These differences are robust, linked to sex stereotypes, and manipulated to influence choices of clothing, toys, etc. Asking these questions will tell us whether these taken-for-granted sex differences are only artifacts.

Interests: Oil painting, piano playing, pop-jazz, yoga, tea, documentaries, culture

Mr Jordan Woods

USA • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Criminology, King's College

previous university

University of California (Los Angeles)



I grew up in the snowy Catskill Mountains of Upstate New York. At Cambridge, my PhD research will explore how the British police handle hate crimes, with an emphasis on hate crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. I intend on using my research to improve hate crime policing within North America and the European Union. In 2012-13, I will take a year off from Cambridge to brush up on my country-western dance moves in Texas and serve as a judicial clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. After graduate school, I hope to enter academia and be involved in making public policy on criminal sentencing, criminal procedure, and law enforcement related issues.

Interests: My interests include writing, cooking, reality television, clarinet composition, social justice movements, and comedy.

Mr Surgeon Xolo

South Africa • 2007

course in cambridge

PhD in Education, Hughes Hall

previous university

University of Warwick



The Gates Cambridge Scholarship enables me to pursue my intellectual aspirations at an internationally renowned university. In Cambridge I have an opportunity to meet leading scholars, from all over the world. This will allow me to explore global trends in mathematics education with a critical reflection on how the best of these may be incorporated into curriculum practice in South Africa. In my PhD study I seek to investigate South African teachers' practice in terms of the opportunities offered for the South African students to learn mathematics.

Interests: My interests include travelling the world, reading, creative writing and engaging in philosophical and educational issues.

Mr Zhen Yang

China • 2010

course in cambridge

PhD in Engineering, Trinity College

previous university

University of Birmingham



Have graduated from Electrical, Electronic and Computer Science Department, the University of Birmingham as a top student, I am now a PhD student in the field of Photonic Systems. Before this, I did 2 years study at Fudan University, Shanghai, with a top result in the major of Optical Science and Technology. I am interested in the project on superradiant emission from a semiconductor structure, which would be a promising technology for LASER development.

Interests: Badminton, swimming, photography

Mr Edward Yapp

Brunei • 2011

course in cambridge

PhD in Chemical Engineering, Churchill College

previous university

University of Adelaide



'In everything give thanks', and all the more so for the generosity of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the work of the Gates Cambridge Trust. My project involves developing surrogate models – cheaper and faster to run than detailed computational models – for certain transportation fuels. The aim is to reproduce a number of key physical and chemical characteristics, which is of great value to both fuel producers (oil refiners) and manufacturers of combustion devices (engines, turbines, etc).

Interests: Cycling, jogging, table-tennis and basketball; jazz and mainstream music; origami and tying knots

Mr Xuesheng You

China • 2008

course in cambridge

PhD in Economics, Wolfson College

previous universities

University of Cambridge

University of Manchester



I obtained my MPhil in Economic (Option B) in Cambridge after graduating from the University of Manchester with a first class degree in Economic Science and Manchester School Prize. Having spent a year on the programme of PhD Economic in Cambridge, I switched my academic interest to economic history. Now my research area is the occupational structure of British female employment during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Interests: Painting, Chinese calligraphy, art history, Greek tragedy, Chinese literature with focused interests in Qin and Han Dynasty, philosophy.

Mr Michael Young

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Philosophy, Trinity College

previous universities

University of Maryland, Baltimore
County

Yeshiva University



I have begun my M.Phil studies in the Faculty of Philosophy, where I will be focusing on philosophical issues related to medicine and the mind. Cambridge has been an outstanding place to be for my academic and nonacademic interests. I look forward to exploring more of the opportunities available in Cambridge during the coming year.

Interests: Fencing, philosophy of mind, music, creative writing, tea.

Miss Amy Zhang

USA • 2011

course in cambridge

MPhil in Advanced Computer Science,
Trinity College

previous university

Rutgers University



I am a current scholar at Trinity College, pursuing an MPhil in Advanced Computer Science. My research interests are in social media, data mining, and natural language processing. I hope to use the vast amounts of data we have through social media to learn more about people and how they interact, communicate, and identify with others. This year, I plan on joining the NetOS group at the Computer Laboratory to study geo-social trends and how our locations and distances in the physical world affect how and with whom we communicate online. My thesis as an undergraduate was on Twitter and finding terms with daily periodicity in different communities to learn how people go about their days and how this differs depending on location.

Interests: I'm on the Blues team for tennis, and also plan to take part in singing and radio DJing while at Cambridge. I love music, movies, traveling, and photography.

Table of Gates Scholars in residence 2011–12 by country

Argentina	2	Hong Kong	1	Romania	2
Australia	16	India	17	Russia	4
Austria	3	Iran	1	Serbia	1
Bangladesh	1	Ireland	3	Singapore	4
Belgium	1	Israel	1	South Africa	3
Bolivia	1	Italy	5	Spain	1
Brunei	1	Kenya	2	Sweden	4
Bulgaria	1	Malaysia	1	Switzerland	1
Canada	17	Mexico	3	Taiwan	1
China	9	Mongolia	1	Tanzania	1
Croatia	2	Montenegro	1	Thailand	1
Cyprus	1	Netherlands	1	Trinidad and Tobago	1
Denmark	1	New Zealand	2	Turkey	1
El Salvador	2	Nigeria	2	Ukraine	2
Estonia	2	Norway	1	USA	84
France	3	Pakistan	1	Zambia	1
Germany	14	Peru	1	Zimbabwe	1
Ghana	1	Poland	4		

Total countries: 53. Total scholars in residence 2011–12: 239.

Table of Gates Scholars in residence 2011–12 by college

Christ's College	5	Lucy Cavendish College	3
Churchill College	13	Murray Edwards College (New Hall)	4
Clare College	7	Newnham College	3
Clare Hall	4	Pembroke College	7
Corpus Christi College	4	Peterhouse	5
Darwin College	6	Queens' College	17
Downing College	6	Robinson College	1
Emmanuel College	6	Selwyn College	7
Fitzwilliam College	4	Sidney Sussex College	5
Girton College	1	St Catharine's College	4
Gonville and Caius College	3	St Edmund's College	8
Homerton College	4	St John's College	28
Hughes Hall	4	Trinity College	34
Jesus College	12	Trinity Hall	10
King's College	13	Wolfson College	12

Total colleges: 29.

