

Development & Alumni Relations Report

Milos Martinov



I was delighted to join St Cross in September 2024, just before the start of Michaelmas term. Over the past year, I have enjoyed getting to know the College and meeting alumni and friends from all corners of the world. Thank you to everyone for the universally warm welcome. The Development team and I feel energised about the future of St Cross, particularly with the College's 60th anniversary coming up in the next academic year. Plenty of exciting things are on the horizon.

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The Development Office has a two-fold mission:

- Raising funds to support current and future generations of St Crossers.
- Helping alumni and friends realise their lifelong membership of the College.

On the fundraising front, I am pleased to report that St Crossers have collectively raised £475,359 in gifts and pledges in the 2024-25 financial year. 191 people made donations – an increase of almost 125% compared to the previous year.

A huge thank you to all our donors, whose support makes a wonderful difference. We would like to extend particular thanks to Career Essentials Inc (2005) and our great friend David Scrymgeour, whose generous matching gift campaign inspired many to donate.

We are thrilled to have completed this campaign in July, ahead of the December 2025 deadline. Causes supported by donors include our general fund (for areas of greatest need), buildings, bursaries for students in hardship, the History and Philosophy of Physics (HAPP) centre, and of course, scholarships.

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On that note, the College remains enormously grateful to the Uehiro Foundation for their generosity. We were delighted to welcome the first cohort of eight Uehiro Future Generations Scholars in Practical Ethics this year, alongside two Visiting Scholars from Japan. Special thanks for support of scholarships also go to Richard Briant, Lanna Cheng, Plumer Management Ltd, KT Soo, Anne Vandenabeele, Robin Wells and Doug Wigdor.

We had a busy schedule of 18 events, hosting hundreds of St Crossers. Annual gatherings in College, such as Fred's Lunch and Encaenia, were complemented by vibrant events further afield in London, New York, Edinburgh and Tokyo. We were honoured to host Lord Bilimoria and Debbie Wosskow as speakers for Professionals in Residence, a wonderful programme established by Doug Wigdor. Our schedule also included an exciting Uehiro Lecture Series in Practical Ethics, featuring Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Helen Frowe and Michael Sandel. We extend our

thanks to the Uehiro Foundation for supporting this series and to our Fellow Alberto Giubilini for his expert curation of the programme. See our YouTube page (@STXCollege) for recordings.

We kept our community up-to-date with a termly e-newsletter and the annual College magazines (*Crossword & Record*). It has been a real joy to learn about, and report, all the exciting things St Crossers are getting up to – our community never ceases to amaze! The membership of our alumni LinkedIn Group (St Cross College, Oxford) has also grown. With more than 1,000

members, it serves as an alumni directory, helping St Crossers maintain old connections and make new ones.

I would like to close by paying tribute to the Development team – James, Savi, Julia and Ben – for their stellar support throughout the year. Thank you for all that you do to take care of this remarkable scholarly community!

Milos Martinov
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