“Our College is a magical place, inspiring lifelong affection and loyalty in nearly all who come here. Our unique mix of buildings, our gardens and grounds, our lake, the very special relationship between students, tutors and staff, our mix of academic excellence and extra-curricular passions: we have everything a College could wish for, but we need the resources to sustain all this for future generations. We have before us a once in a century opportunity to do nothing short of re-endowing Worcester College for the next three hundred years.”

The Provost: Professor Jonathan Bate CBE FBA
2014 is the 300th anniversary of our re-foundation as Worcester College in 1714.

Before this Campaign, Worcester had the lowest endowment of all the historic Oxford colleges: £15m.

The average Oxford college endowment is nearly £100m. Some colleges have endowments close to £400m.

It is only drawdown from endowments that makes possible the investment in Oxford’s one-on-one tutorial teaching system.

Changes in public funding to Higher Education mean that students, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, need more financial support.

The College's historic buildings and beautiful grounds need constant maintenance and improvement.

We have therefore launched a £100 million capital campaign to endow the College for the next three centuries.

“Worcester opened my eyes as to how to think and analyse. I feel I use what I learned every day.”
Barrie Wray 1964

“The Michael Codron Theatre Fund was a wonderful resource to draw on for the Merchant of Venice on the lake. His support meant that we were able to source costumes from the National Theatre and RSC, resources usually out of bounds for college productions. Sir Michael Codron’s generous donation is integral to making Worcester theatre as exciting as it is.”
Lucinda Dawkins 2010

TERCENTENARY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES

Campaign Presidents
The Rt Hon Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover KG (1948)
The Rt Hon Sir Timothy Sainsbury (1953)

UK Campaign Committee
Mr Edward Wray (1987), Chairman
Mr Peter Arken (1978)
Mrs Charlotte Cunningham (1985)
Mr Stuart Gulliver (1977)
Ms Christopher Harvey (1977)
Ms Garry Jones (1976)
Mr Fuad Khadder (1978)
Mr Brooks Newmark MP (1960)
Mr Martin Paisner CBE (1962)
The Hon Mr Rupert Soames CBE (1978)
Mr Tim Stevenson CBE (1987)
Ms Plum Sykes (1988)

USA Campaign Committee
Senator Bill Bradley (1965), Hon Chairman
Mr Barrie Wray (1964), Chairman
Mr Claire Andersen (1964)
Mr Barry Budd (1960)
Mr Benjamin Burke (1990)
Dr Tony Gotto (1957)
Mr James Grant (1977)
Mr Steve Kemper (1972)
Mr Ian Lindsay (1976)
Mr David Loomer (1976)
Mr T. Dennis Sullivan II (1970)
Miss Emma Watson (2011)

Asia-Pacific Lead Donor
HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah of Perak, Malaysia (1976)
THE OXFORD TUTORIAL

“We were to be tutorial partners for the next three years … he was able to push them in their reading, and in their thinking, and consequently their debates each week became something he looked forward to a great deal.”

Elanor Dymott (1992), Every Contact Leaves a Trace

The individual student writing an essay or solving a problem, then discussing it with a tutor who is a world expert in the field, sometimes together with a tutorial partner: this is the unique feature of an Oxford degree. In a world of mass higher education, where class sizes soar, Oxford holds fast to the tutorial system, where learning is tailored to each student and their needs, where there is no place to hide, where young minds are pushed to think harder, to go further in their intellectual journey. In most twenty-first century universities there is a smorgasbord of options and a lack of continuity in tuition, by contrast our tutors nurture our students all the way from Admissions to Graduation.

But this central pillar of College teaching does not come cheaply. The government-backed student loan scheme only covers half of what it costs to sustain the Oxford tutorial system. The balance has to come from drawdown on endowments. For the wealthier colleges, this is easy, but Worcester has never had a large endowment and has an exceptionally low number of endowed Tutorial Fellowships. We cannot continue at our current rate of drawdown. We must more than double the number of fully endowed Tutorial Fellowships. Securing the future of our tutorial life is the number one priority of the Campaign.

TARGET
£25 million to permanently endow ten Tutorial Fellowships. Lead gifts of £8 million have already endowed four of these:
- The Asa Briggs Fellowship in the Humanities
- The Clarendon Wigmore Fellowship in Economics
- The Clarendon Hinton Fellowship in Philosophy
- The Clarendon Lightbody Fellowship in History
On first arrival, it was clear that this was going to be no average student production of Shakespeare. Worcester College looked gorgeous on a summer’s evening. A path traced out by tea-lights and fairy-lights led to a modest seating area facing a small pontoon-like stage extending a few metres over the lake, with Venetian gondolier mooring poles setting the scene, and musicians playing on a boat on the lake.”

Cherwell 5* review of The Buskins’ Merchant of Venice, 2014

Worchester is one of the most sought-after of Oxford Colleges. Academically, we now excel across all disciplines, whilst maintaining the College’s great traditions in extra-curricular activities: on the river and the sports field, in drama and music, chapel choir, societies, charity events, Junior and Middle Common Rooms.

But in order to ensure that no gifted and talented student, whatever their background, is prevented from applying to Worchester by anxiety about future debt, we need to build a significant endowment to support undergraduate bursaries, graduate scholarships, hardship funds and provision for student facilities.

Every pound raised for this aspect of the Campaign is matched by an additional pound from the University-wide Moritz-Heyman Scholarships.
THE WORCESTER ENVIRONMENT

“Is this England’s oldest garden?”
Country Life, 18 September 2013

A garden and an orchard have been integral to our site ever since the foundation of Gloucester College in 1283. The lawn of our front quad is widely recognised as one of the best in the world. Our award-winning gardening team have created an enviable reputation for Worcester’s gardens. Our lake and our on-site sports field are unique, as is the eclecticism of our architecture – medieval and Georgian sharing the same quad.

But the maintenance, renovation and enhancement of our historic buildings and grounds represent a huge challenge. In recent years, we have completed a building programme that allows all undergraduate students to be resident on site for a full three years and graduate students for at least one. Now, we need to turn our attention to a rolling programme of repair and improvement in the historic site, and to the sustainability of the gardens, grounds and lake.

TARGET
£12m for the maintenance and enhancement of our historic buildings and grounds. A generous lead gift from the Headley Trust has enabled us to begin our programme of work in the Tercentenary Year, with the renovation of the medieval kitchens.
The Main Quad and Pump Quad, the Hall and the Bar, will always be the historic heart of the College, but the programme of building work undertaken during the Provostship of Dick Smethurst has shifted the centre of residential gravity to the north. As an enduring monument of the Tercentenary, we are setting the capstone to this development with the creation of a new social space overlooking the sports field and the Lake. The Sultan Nazrin Shah building, designed by award-winning architect Niall McLaughlin, will contain a beautiful 200 seat amphitheatre-style Lecture Theatre for events, talks and performances, a foyer and social space, two seminar rooms, an e-hub for online student learning and a studio for dance, exercise and rehearsal.

The building is fully funded through a munificent gift of HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah of Perak, Malaysia.
LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE

“To raise or endow … Fellowships and scholars’ places.”
The Will of Sir Thomas Cooke of Worcester, 1697

£40m in new endowment for Fellowships and student support and £20m expendable benefactions for infrastructure constitutes the £60m target for the active campaign, which we envisage as a process lasting a minimum of five years and a maximum of ten. It would bring the endowment to £55m, allowing us a sustainable annual drawdown of £2m, which is the minimum needed for operational purposes.

The Legacy element constitutes a further £40m target – towards which we have already received major pledges in significant Old Member Wills – for general endowment to secure the long-term future of the College. This will raise the endowment close to £100m, taking us into the upper half of the Oxford collegiate “endowment league table”.

We hope that Old Members will consider a combination of lifetime pledges and legacy giving.

It should be noted that many Old Members continue to fulfil generous pledges to our Annual Fund.

Professor Jonathan Bate CBE FBA, Provost
Edward Wray (1987), UK Campaign Chair
Barrie Wigmore (1964), US Campaign Chair
Coleen Day, Director of Development & Alumni Relations