The Birkbeck effect

Your gift, our future

Winter 2012
Welcome from the Master

If you are one of the many people who has given generously to the College in the last academic year, we thank you. Your donations have a huge impact and make a difference both to Birkbeck students and the life of the College.

Thank you for your support.

Outstanding student experience

Building Birkbeck

In keeping with our mission to champion widening participation and make education available to all, Birkbeck has taken its unique model of evening higher education to east London. We have embarked on a £33 million joint venture to create a purpose-built campus in Stratford. Doors will open and welcome over 3000 students in Autumn 2013. Our aim is to reach our £3 million fundraising target to complete the project totally.

Student financial support

For nearly a third of our students, lack of finance remains a major barrier to attending university; they would not be able to study without the help of bursaries, scholarships or hardship grants. Donor funding remains an essential part of our student financial support offering at all levels, from the important entry-level certificate courses to postgraduate research.

Delivering a great student experience with world-class academics

Birkbeck is committed to delivering a seamless student experience from first enquiry through to graduation, ensuring students have the best possible learning experience, taught by academics who are experts in their fields. Donations from alumni, trusts and foundations help to maintain Birkbeck’s world-class research, improving the environment in which our researchers work and teach. Alumni donations have also contributed towards the launch of the My Birkbeck Student Services, which offer help and guidance from enrolment, registration and study skills to finance and fees – everything a student might need.

Fundingraise at Birkbeck

In 2010–2011, in numbers

- Income totalled £27.1 million with £500,000, our largest donation from an alumnus
- £1.35 million raised from Matched Funding
- £150,000 in the Alumni Fund with £8,000 in Gift Aid
- £574 donations from 1438 donors
- £1,700 raised from the class of 2010
- 1799 alumni called by 32 student callers in the telephone campaign

- 5674 donations from 1438 donors
- 20% of alumni give annually

- £100 gifts accounted for 30% of all donations
- £1700 raised from the class of 2010
- 5674 donations from 1438 donors
- £1.35 million realised from Matched Funding

- Thank you for your gifts

- Student financial support

- £100,000
- Over £1 million
- £1.35 million
- £2.17 million
- £1700
- £100

- Destination of donations received in 2010–2011

- 26%
- 57%
- 17%
- 17%
Latin America in photography and film

This resource is an invaluable component of CILAVS, which has been under-researched. Initially, research will be carried in which to undertake component of CILAVS, which will be able to £100 Gifts of up to £100

The British presence in Latin America has left a rich visual archive in the areas of trade, diplomacy, anthroplogy and agriculture, but this has been under-researched. The Oxsodus Family Fund supports innovative projects to preserve and increase accessibility to film and visual media. With their help, the Centre for Iberian and Latin American Visual Studies (CILAVS) at Birkbeck have been able to expand a Latin

America in Photography and Film online research resource. This will provide a cross-referenced, searchable register of photography and film to document Britain’s interaction with Latin America from the mid-nineteenth century to the end of World War II. Individual collections are being brought together in a searchable database which will allow scholars to locate the material they are looking for by place, author and period. Initially, research will be carried out in institutions such as the British Film Institute, the Royal Geographical Society, the Royal Anthropological Institute, and the British Museum. Research will focus on scientific expeditions, expeditions and cultural missions, and infrastructural projects carried out by British contractors, as well as commercial images of the region circulating in the UK. The content is open-access and be visited at www.bbk.ac.uk/ibamese2/resources/photography

In 2012 Birkbeck will celebrate the twenty-year anniversary of the founding of its School of Law. Student numbers have expanded rapidly since 1992, and the School was recently awarded a grant from the Solicitors’ Educational Trust to develop its learning support facilities for the expanding part-time student body.

A new, dedicated telephone tuition service will provide a flexible way to assist students in managing their work lives and educational commitments. Students who wish to take the course because of the demands of work or travel will be able to call one of three specialist tutors to seek advice on preparing for seminars, presentations, and essay writing, as well as additional support for exam revision.

Professor Matthew Weal of the School of Law expects the new service to become a central part of the School’s support provision: “The tuition line is a significant and original innovation for the School and marks its continuing commitment to ensuring the best possible learning experience for students.”

The project follows the example of the success of My Birkbeck initiative, which has been supported by the Alumni Benevolent Fund. This additional tuition service will also provide a leading example of flexible learning techniques that can be applied to other law schools nationally.
The Vasari Research Centre in the School of Arts uses digital technologies to benefit the study of history of art and screen media. Founded by the study of history of art and one undergraduate and one postgraduate student from each year will receive a £500 bursary to cover travel, accommodation and fieldwork costs. The undergraduate programme exceeds the Geological Society’s requirement of at least 64 days of fieldwork. These complement lectures and lab-based practicals, and are one of the strongest features of the Birkbeck programme.