Gates Cambridge Scholars 2008

Scholars are listed alphabetically by name within their year-group. The list includes current Scholars, although a few will start their course in January or April 2009 or later.

Several students listed here may be spending all or part of the academic year 2008-09 working away from Cambridge whilst undertaking field-work or other study as an integral part of their doctoral research. The list also retains some Scholars who will complete their PhD thesis and will be leaving Cambridge before the end of the academic year.

Some Scholars shown as working for a PhD degree will be required to complete successfully in 2009 a post-graduate certificate or Master’s degree, or similar qualification, before being allowed by the University to proceed with doctoral studies.

A full list of the 290 Gates Scholars in residence during 2008–09 appears indexed by name on the last two pages of this yearbook. An alphabetical list of the 534 Gates Scholars who have, as of October 2008, completed the tenure of their scholarships appears on pages 92–100.

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NOTES
* Indicates that a Scholar applied for and was awarded a second Gates Cambridge Scholarship for further study at Cambridge
** Indicates that a Scholar was given permission by the Trust to defer their Gates Cambridge Scholarship

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On behalf of the trustees of the Gates Cambridge Scholarships, I’d like to say congratulations and welcome to Cambridge.

One of my favorite job responsibilities as an employee of the Gates Foundation is traveling to Cambridge each May or June to observe what a day in the life of a Gates Scholar is like. While I don’t claim to understand all that you do in the lab or the details of your dissertation topics, I do marvel at the many ways in which you go about immersing yourselves in the University. It’s amazing to consider some of the “activities” scholars have pursued during this past year alone: the formation of a business to promote a new diagnostic test for tuberculosis, the publication of an article on the impact of diet on decision-making, and completion of a prize winning essay on Darwin’s observations of orchids as they relate to his theology, just to name a few highlights. As you already know—and as this short list confirms—Cambridge is one of the world’s great points of convergence for interesting people and ideas. Just by showing up in the lab, the lecture hall, or for a debate at the Union, it’s entirely possible to end up in the middle of an exchange of some global significance. And judging by your credentials to date, all of you clearly have a knack for “showing up.”

It’s easy to see that your class of scholars embodies diversity on a global scale. And we’re all hoping that this “fellowship” will not only provide a time and place for testing ideas, but a set of relationships that may help motivate you long after you leave Cambridge. Last fall, the Gates Scholars Alumni Association was launched to help keep these connections strong among the 725 scholars that have come before you. Regional groups have formed in many of your home countries and in the coming months gatherings are planned to connect past, present, and incoming scholars. Hopefully, in the years ahead, after you have left the University, these connections will remind you of your fellow scholars and your youthful, Cambridge “state of mind” that emboldened you to pursue a life of challenge, adventure, and service over one of ease.

Again, congratulations and welcome.

Best wishes,

William H. Gates

Trustee, Gates Cambridge Trust
Co-Chair, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Gates Cambridge Trust: Trustees

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Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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Baroness O’Neill of Bengarve PBA
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Mrs Anne Lonsdale
Former President of Murray Edwards College (New Hall), Cambridge, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and Chair of Camfed International

Dr Andrew Robertson
Fellow of UC Berkeley Center for Emerging and Neglected Disease, and Gates Scholar 2001

Gates Cambridge Trust: Officers

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President of Wolfson College, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge

Mr James Smith (Executive Officer)
Senior Member of Wolfson College, Cambridge

Ms Hilary Perrott (Executive Officer)

Mr Andrew Thompson MBE (Treasurer)
Fellow (and former Bursar) of Magdalene College, Cambridge

Dr Jonathan Nicholls (Secretary)
Registrary of the University of Cambridge

Mr Thomas Billinge (Administrative Assistant)
**Ms Sarah Alexander**  
*Ireland*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Classics  
St John's College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Trinity College, Dublin

I am delighted to have the opportunity to work towards a PhD in Classics at Cambridge. My particular focus is Hellenistic Greek poetry and literary criticism.

**INTERESTS:**  
My interests include history, politics, philosophy, literature, music, film, food and conversation.

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**Ms Laura Allan**  
*Germany*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Pharmacology  
Queens' College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Newcastle upon Tyne

I am investigating the role of amyloid precursor protein derived peptides in the pathological mechanism of Alzheimer’s Disease (AD). It has been predicted that in 50 years time there will be as many as 100 million AD sufferers worldwide. This translates into severe strain on medical, monetary and human resources. I would like to make a contribution towards acquiring a clearer understanding of AD thus advancing the search for treatments which will halt its progression or indeed effect a cure.

**INTERESTS:**  
i enjoy music and dance of all kinds and both indoor and outdoor sporting activities.

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**Ms Karuna Ganesh**  
*India*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MBBCh in Clinical Studies  
Fitzwilliam College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge

The Gates Cambridge Scholarship will allow me to study clinical medicine and pursue doctoral research at Cambridge, thereby preparing me for a career as a medical scientist. In the long term, I hope to study virulence mechanisms of microbial pathogens, and develop affordable means of combating them. In this way, and by participating in international health policy planning, I hope to make a real difference to people’s health in the poorest parts of the world.

**INTERESTS:**  
Molecular evolution, political philosophy and international affairs, literature, languages, Bharatanatyam, community service, travel, badminton, wine, chocolate...

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**Miss Yinglin Ji**  
*China*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in English and Applied Linguistics  
Trinity Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Beijing University  
Ocean University of China

My career goal is to become a linguist who can view language teaching from the perspective of a practitioner and meanwhile, a practitioner who would like to see language teaching through a research lens. I believe that my potential as an English teacher and researcher will be further exploited in the highly stimulating and exciting atmosphere of Cambridge. I’m also very grateful to the Gates Cambridge Trust for their generous financial support of my PhD study in Cambridge.

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, Chinese ancient poetry, music, jogging, travelling.
Miss Ella McPherson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social and Political Science
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Princeton University

My PhD research in Cambridge University will add value to the research that I have carried out during my MS at IIT Madras. This will enable me to understand and use technological innovation in various infrastructure projects specifically projects related to Structural Engineering. Such knowledge will undoubtedly help me and my country to realise the vision of making a developing country like India into a developed country. I gratefully acknowledge the support of the Gates Cambridge Trust.

INTERESTS:
Latin American films, documentary photography, Mexican food & drink, travel

Mr Ramar Pandia Raj
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering
Jesus College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Indian Institute of Technology
University of Madras

My PhD research in Cambridge University will add value to the research that I have carried out during my MS at IIT Madras. This will enable me to understand and use technological innovation in various infrastructure projects specifically projects related to Structural Engineering. Such knowledge will undoubtedly help me and my country to realise the vision of making a developing country like India into a developed country. I gratefully acknowledge the support of the Gates Cambridge Trust.

INTERESTS:
Badminton, swimming, travelling, listening to music and reading literature.

Mr Jan Trnka*
Czech Republic

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Charles University, Prague

I had the good fortune to receive my first Gates scholarship to study mitochondria-targeted antioxidants and other related chemicals, which could potentially help in the treatment of diseases such as Parkinson disease or Alzheimer’s dementia. In 2008 I will study towards a MPhil in the history and philosophy of science, again supported by the Gates Cambridge Trust. Understanding the philosophical basis of modern science is, in my view, crucial if we are to solve the many problems in modern biomedical science and practice – from cognitive sciences to medical ethics.

INTERESTS:
Playing sports (rowing, volleyball, skiing and others), hiking, backpacking, debating about religion, philosophy, politics and anything else I know little about, learning languages, listening to music, going to cinema, meeting interesting people.

Ms Abigail Wild**
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Criminological Research
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Harvard University

I plan to research women’s rights and mental health care in Latin American prisons. I am interested in questions of cross-cultural applicability of prison modeling and in culturally contingent explanations for gaps between criminological research and penal policy. I am also interested in prison conversion narratives, photographic representation of prisoners, and historical constructions of criminal typologies and their use in substantiating (frequently racialized) claims about atavistic types.

INTERESTS:
Inclusive action learning environments (especially outdoor), primatology, water-skiing, violin, board games, soccer, neurotheology, sleep/research, hiking, costume parties.
Ms Umut Yildirim  
Turkey  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Social Anthropological Research  
Lucy Cavendish College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
London School of Economics  
Boğaziçi University, Istanbul  
Koç University, Istanbul

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By drawing upon my fieldwork on ‘forced migration’ in Diyarbakir, a city in Southeastern Turkey, I aim to ethnographically and analytically explore dissonant militant attachments to grassroots in a context where discursive practices of war and peace overlap.

**INTERESTS:**  
Food, music, photography, poetry, humor, collectivist practices, psychoanalysis, theories of affect, etc…

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Ms Mi Zhou  
Australia  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in English  
Clare Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of New South Wales

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I began my PhD with the vague notion of looking at the relationship between music and literature. After much painful trial and error, I have now narrowed it down to looking at EM Forster’s use of music in his novels. I attempt to bring musicology and music history into literary criticism, and argue for a broader inter-medial approach to literature.

**INTERESTS:**  
Many things; mostly my friends.

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Mr Shehu Abdussalam  
Nigeria  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Mathematics  
St Edmund’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
African Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Cape Town  
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

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I enjoy learning new ideas of physics at high energies and want to contribute to our understanding of the secrets of nature. The Gates Cambridge Scholarship has given me an opportunity for tools and experience gathering towards achieving that.

**INTERESTS:**  
Science, reading history, politics, cycling, jogging.

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Mr Ross Anthony  
South Africa  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Social Anthropological Analysis  
Pembroke College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
University of Cape Town

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I have spent the last year doing fieldwork in China’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. My research examines ways in which frontier cities of western China are changing under post-Mao reforms. I am particularly interested in how the spatial organization of large-scale state and commercial ventures influence people’s behaviour at the micro-level.

**INTERESTS:**  
Spending time with friends.
Ms Diane Archer*
Thailand

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Land Economy
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

I am commencing the final year of my PhD in Land Economy, looking at the implications on social capital of community participation in slum upgrading in Bangkok, Thailand. I carried out my fieldwork during the first half of 2008, in Bangkok.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy playing ladies football for my college, as well as playing tennis and going for runs along the river. I’m a keen reader and baker, and like visiting new places in order to stave off itchy feet.

Dr Felix Assah
Cameroon

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Epidemiology
Wolfson College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Yaounde I

My PhD research will focus on objective measurement of physical activity in an adult Cameroonian population. This work is within the broad area of understanding the determinants of adult obesity, diabetes and related metabolic disorders. I intend to focus my career on alleviating the burden of diabetes on the population and the healthcare system through epidemiological research on primordial and primary prevention of diabetes.

INTERESTS:
Reading, watching football/movies, music and travel. I do not trust people who don’t drink coffee!

Ms Silvia Breu
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
Newnham College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Passau
University of Edinburgh

I am excited about being in Cambridge and I hope to sharpen my skills, to broaden my view, and to meet exciting people. I work on the automated analysis of software and related artifacts. In particular, I like to improve the quality of software systems. I tackle this problem by helping programmers to identify functionality that is spread over a system but could be bundled for improved understanding and maintainability. At Cambridge, I am looking forward to finding mutually inspiring discussions as well as collaboration with people from inside and outside my field.

INTERESTS:
Sports (volleyball, skiing, skating, diving, hiking), music (singing, playing instruments) and movies. I’ve always been a bookworm and have a passion for cooking & baking. I love walking around in museums of modern art, cities with intriguing architecture, travelling in fascinating countries, through wild nature & to buzzing cities. I enjoy chilling in cafes, latte macchiatto, reading, solving logical puzzles, listening to music, watching people walk by, but also love to perfectly organise events such as dinner parties or trips.
Ms Chi (Angela) Chew
Singapore

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Classics
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

During the next two years I will be analyzing privacy technologies for use on the internet.

INTERESTS:
Theology; international friendship (I have been involved in running international coffee bars and other activities for several years in Cambridge); travelling; languages; (non-academic) counselling.

Mr Rittik Chaudhuri
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biological Science
Magdalene College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Duke University

Among the genes encoded by HIV, Nef has been shown to be a primary determinant of viral pathogenicity. Patients infected with an attenuated strain of HIV, lacking a functional Nef, have displayed markedly slower progression towards AIDS. While at Cambridge, I intend to explore the role of Nef in HIV pathogenesis using an array of biochemical, cell biological, and genomic approaches. Hopefully, the findings of these studies will contribute to our understanding of HIV.

INTERESTS:
Running, lifting, near death experiences, playing sandlot baseball, betterfication campaigns, not tearing my ACL a third time, email, becoming an astronaut, shooting, and living the life of a mendicant student.

Mr Aaron Coble
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Pennsylvania State University
Oxford University

I am honored to be continuing my PhD research as a Gates Scholar. During the next two years I will be analyzing privacy technologies for use on the internet.

INTERESTS:
My interests are quite varied and include: swing dancing, cycling, climbing/backpacking/outdoor pursuits, wine tasting, classical and contemporary cookery, activism, abstract painting, bonsai, gardening, modern poetry, and independent film. Most of all I enjoy meeting and talking with anyone about their interests and experiences.

Ms Amanda Dennis*
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in French
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Princeton University

My PhD investigates the figure of the philosopher poet, and, more broadly, explores the notion of philosophy as a creative, artistic practice. Drawing on a rich background of continental thought, my project focuses on phenomenology in twentieth-century France—in particular, on the work of Maurice Merleau-Ponty, whose stylish metaphors and poetic prose situate him at the intersection between philosophy and literature. Merleau-Ponty’s theory of embodied perception also challenges Cartesian and Kantian descriptions of subjectivity, and may be seen as a more recent embodiment of Nietzsche’s ‘perspectivism’. My work also examines the interplay between art and philosophy from the perspective of the artist; part of the PhD will engage the projects of Samuel Beckett, a poet philosopher whose work parodies metaphysics and enacts critiques of positivism that are fascinatingly consonant with those of French phenomenology.

INTERESTS:
My favorite thing to do is travel – explore new places, meet new people, learn languages, challenge myself to imagine what the world might look like from other angles or perspectives. That said, I enjoy simple pleasures as well: soccer, yoga, running, sailing, cooking (especially Thai food), good company, wine, theater, art, film and all kinds of music. I’m also an aspiring fiction writer, and curious to see where that will lead me!
Mr Fernan Federici
Argentina

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Plant Sciences
St Edmund's College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Universidad Católica de Chile
Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza

The aim of my PhD project is to contribute to better understanding of the genetic and cellular interactions that control plant development. I’m very grateful to the Gates Cambridge Trust for their financial support of my PhD.

**INTERESTS:**
Futbol, fly fishing, photography, trekking, and following my team: Boca Juniors.

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Mr Szilard Fejer
Romania

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Chemistry
Downing College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Szeged

Computational chemistry is becoming a more and more powerful tool for chemists as time goes by. One “mystery” of particular interest, which can be very well investigated with the help of computational chemistry, is how certain systems can self-assemble into well-defined structures. I am very excited to do research in this field in Cambridge, and I’m sure my experiences gained during these years will last for a lifetime.

**INTERESTS:**
General stuff like biking, movies, travelling; most of the time I play the guitar or the piano when I’m not near a computer or sleeping.

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Mr Daniel Greenfield
Australia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Computer Science
Trinity Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of New South Wales
University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign)

As part of the Cambridge-MIT Alliance in Pervasive Computing, I am excited to be working with some of the best researchers in this field. As transistors shrink, communication becomes a major bottleneck to performance. My research concerns Networks-on-Chip for communication-limited VLSI. As a big believer in the cross-pollination of ideas, even from seemingly far-flung fields, I look forward to many fascinating discussions, as well as close friendships, in the Gates Cambridge community.

**INTERESTS:**
Development, sustainable energy, music (an eclectic sort), Japanese animation, systems biology, cancer diagnosis, statistical machine learning, sociology, gourmet food/chocolate and travel.

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Mr Dirk-Hinrich Haar*
Germany

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil & PhD in Criminology
Selwyn College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Kostanz
Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris
Universitat Leipzig

Ultimately, my goal is “better” criminal policy in a double sense: To address more effectively crime as a major concern of people in many countries, and to free resources and sympathy for human rights and equal protection. Beyond contributing to policy design and its knowledge foundations, I am also willing to engage in the struggles of implementation. The Institute of Criminology provides an excellent environment for related research. Being a Gates scholar inspires and motivates me further.

**INTERESTS:**
Sports (esp. ice hockey, fencing, windsurfing, football), politics (esp. international and development issues), writing (esp. speeches, essays), music (esp. violin, jazz, modern classical), reading (20th century literature, esp. poetry).
Mr Joel Halcomb  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Early Modern History  
Selwyn College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Oklahoma State University  
York University  

I was born in Texas, lived for a while in the deep south and graduated from Oklahoma State University with degrees in mathematics and history. Here at Cambridge I am studying early modern history, with an emphasis on religion. My PhD looks at puritan religion during Britain’s Revolution in the 17th century. I am interested in religious motivation, the power of ritual and providence and how these aspects translate into religious politics.  

**INTERESTS:**  
I like long walks on the beach, red wine, English girls named Helena, and Yearbook statements. I play in a band called Bert and the Shirts. I like working construction while drinking Pabst Blue Ribbon and talking about Eugene Debs to a bunch of wryly rednecks who don’t know who he is. It’s futile, but no more than the current geopolitical situation. At least the rednecks are partly charming.

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Miss Deborah Hayden  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Anglo Saxon  
Hughes Hall  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Wellesley College  

My PhD research will focus on the evolution of linguistic study and thought in medieval Ireland, and will aim to explore the broader questions of language use and acquisition through a textual medium. Ultimately I hope to use my experience at Cambridge to pursue a career in teaching and research.  

**INTERESTS:**  
Music (of all sorts, but especially playing horn and fiddle), literature, languages, travel.

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Ms Jin He  
China  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Education  
St John’s College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Southwest China Normal University  

My field of research is Second Language Education, which I have pursued for over 10 years. However, I am also extremely interested in early education, educational policy-making and management. My career goal is to become a professional educator and help improve education in my home country. I am very glad to be able to conduct further research at Cambridge and I would particularly like to extend my thanks to the Gates Trust for generously sponsoring my study at Cambridge.  

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, trekking, music, history, social work in improving education in depressed areas.

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Miss Ling-Yan Hung  
Hong Kong  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Theoretical Physics  
Peterhouse  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
University of Oxford  

I am a Theoretical Physics student. I have always aspired to understand the most fundamental laws governing Nature and so I am now working on String Theory. May I express my gratitude to the Gates Trust for granting me this invaluable opportunity to realize my childhood dream.  

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, soccer, Cantonese opera.
Mr Isaac Idun-Arhurst*
Ghana

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in International Relations
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Ghana

I study relations between rising industrial nations and developing countries (the periphery). Two system-changing events have occurred at the turn of this century. One is bad enough for everyone; the other is a positive development on the world stage, yet a potential threat to many. The former is 9/11; the latter, the rise of China. My research investigates the development and geopolitical implications of the emergence of China for African countries, with whom China has been building unprecedented relations. I also study relations between Western countries and Africa in the wake of 9/11 and the rise of China.

INTERESTS:
Reading, creative writing, rhetoric and culture, football, volleyball, travelling.

Ms Tala Jarjour
Syria

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Music
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Ohio University
Higher Institute of Music, Damascus

Throughout my studies I came to realize that whether in the Western world or in the East, music and religion have always had intriguingly close affinities. It is widely known that modern Syria hosts an array of modern and classical Arab musical trends. Nevertheless, little attention is ever given to the relation of this music to the ancient Christian heritage of Syria. In my time in Cambridge I intend to look closely at the Syrian Orthodox Chant which dates to the dawn of Christianity and continues to be sung in Syriac, a dialect of Aramaic. Looking with modern eyes at this ancient heritage, the mere persistent existence of which is fascinating, enriches, I believe, our experience of our common human musical heritage and offers new dimensions for more inter-cultural awareness.

INTERESTS:
Hiking, baking, reading, music.

Mr Anthony Hylick
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Georgia Institute of Technology

I am from Warner Robins, GA, and I completed my undergraduate curriculum (B.S. Computer Engineering 2005) at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA. My current research interests include operating systems research, power-performance management, and computer hardware and architectures. I love baseball, football (American), basketball, being outdoors and relaxing. My future plans are to complete my PhD and become a Research Scientist in the field of Systems-type power management research.

INTERESTS:
Enjoying my first time in the UK and Europe, sports, food, friends, and life. Relaxing and remembering what is important in life.

Mr Seevaratnam Jegandan
Sri Lanka

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Moratuwa

I was very much interested in soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering during my first degree in Civil Engineering. After graduation, I decided to pursue a research degree in geotechnical engineering after thoroughly enjoying my final year undergraduate research project on the topic of deep soil mixing. Currently, I am doing my PhD in applicability of innovative and sustainable binders in deep soil mixing on problematic soil conditions.

INTERESTS:
I am a big fan of classical music; love to travel and play cricket on sunny days.
Mr Nicholas Johnson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemistry
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Texas Tech University

My PhD project involves imaging live cells at high resolution. I am attempting to see features the size of nanometres, approximately 10,000 times smaller than a human hair. To achieve this goal, I am working with a relatively new technique called Scanning Ion Conductance Microscopy (SICM). SICM is specifically designed to image soft surfaces in salt buffer solutions. I am also working on extending this capability to apply localised forces to cells and monitor how they react. This project is especially exciting to me because it involves biology, chemistry, physics, and electrical engineering.

INTERESTS:
In my spare time, I enjoy playing sports and travelling. I have immersed myself in the Cambridge sporting culture becoming deeply involved in rowing and playing a bit of cricket on the side. To relax, I prefer golf, and I have been privileged to play some of the historic links courses in the UK.

Ms Rebecca Johnston
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
Peterhouse

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Sydney

My research will be motivated by some of the most fundamental questions in science: how did our universe form, why does it look like it does, and what is its ultimate fate? Specifically, I’ll be looking at how fluctuations in the early universe grew and evolved, acting as primordial ‘seeds’ for the large scale structure we see in the universe today. In Cambridge, I’m looking forward to joining the Gates community, and to beginning what I hope will be a diverse and challenging career in research.

INTERESTS:
Writing and literature; films, drawing, and singing. I can’t wait to try rowing at Cambridge.

Ms Izabela Kisilowska
Poland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social and Political Science
Peterhouse

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University
Freie Universität, Berlin
Warsaw University

So far my student life has been a lot of fun both in and outside the classroom. Parallel to studying on both sides of the Atlantic, I’ve run a vigorous student association, managed a nationwide project on European integration and established a monthly for young people. Thanks to the Gates Scholarship I am able to engage in intensive research on social sacrifices made in extraordinary situations. Pursuing this project in Cambridge’s unique multicultural environment is a great adventure.

INTERESTS:
Travelling, skiing and photography.
**Mr Sebastian Klinge**  
**Germany**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Zoology  
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge

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During cellular division, DNA needs to be replicated and distributed into two daughter cells. My studies in Cambridge will focus on factors which are required to trigger the initiation of DNA replication.

**INTERESTS:**  
Music (cello), independent cinema and art.

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**Ms Svetlana Kobzar**  
**Ukraine**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in International Studies  
Wolfson College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Alma College

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I am thrilled to be able to pursue my PhD at the University of Cambridge with many faculty and students specialising in the EU’s external policy. I will research the ‘European Union factor’ that contributes to democratisation in Ukraine. I intend to use my knowledge to facilitate further reforms in Ukraine by promoting the political dialogue among government agencies and organised civil society actors.

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, traveling, cinema, mountaineering, yoga.

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**Miss Carmen Lacambra-Segura**  
**Spain**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Geography  
St Edmund’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Hull  
Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá

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I am a biologist, most of my experience has been in tropical coastal ecosystems and policy making. I am researching in the responses of coastal ecosystems to natural hazards and how coastal ecosystems can be integrated to coastal and disaster planning initiatives.

**INTERESTS:**  
My family, conservation, sustainable development, natural disasters, football, scuba diving.

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**Ms Nayanika Mathur**  
**India**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Social Anthropology  
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Institute of Social Sciences, The Hague  
University of Cambridge  
University of Delhi

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I am currently writing up my PhD thesis, which analyses the everyday practices of a local development bureaucracy as it goes about its job of implementing an anti-poverty scheme. This follows a 16 month period of field work on the same in the north Indian state of Uttarakhand. My thesis aims to critically interrogate the relationship between a State and the larger project of development that underpins its very existence.

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, traveling, cinema, mountaineering, yoga.
Mr Kamiar Mohaddes
Sweden

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Economics
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz

Having recently graduated with an MPhil in Economics, I am now continuing to work towards my PhD in Economics. In particular, I am developing models of oil supply in the presence of heterogeneous oil fields in order to shed light on the geopolitics of the oil supply process. I am very grateful for the PhD funding provided by the Gates Cambridge Trust, as it has given me the opportunity to study at Cambridge and allowed me to work towards my goal of pursuing a career in academia.

INTERESTS:
Music, sports, movies, travelling, cooking, hanging out with friends, as well as doing volunteering work in the community.

Mr Martial Ndeffo Mbah*
Cameroon

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Plant Sciences
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Stellenbosch University
University of Yaounde I

Scarcity of resources and effective trade-offs between costs of treatment and disease induced losses are some of the major obstacles faced by policy makers in deciding on the best control strategy to be adopted in the event of a disease outbreak. Using analytical and numerical techniques from Optimization and Control theory, I address the problem of design of optimal control strategies of epidemics under economic and logistic constraints.

INTERESTS:
Bible, science, reading and listening to music.

Mr Jonas Neher
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biochemistry
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Tübingen
Trinity College, Dublin
University of Darmstadt

Through my research I hope to help elucidate the biochemical basis of neurodegenerative disease – and the contribution of inflammation to neuronal death in particular. This knowledge should eventually allow for the development of efficient therapies for these yet untreatable and devastating disorders.

INTERESTS:
Volleyball, playing the flute and saxophone, reading, all kinds of music.

Mr Alex Mauss
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Zoology
Emmanuel College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz

One fascinating question in neurobiological sciences is how the brain develops, providing the basis for correct information flow and integration that enables us to think, sense, and feel. My research project deals with one aspect of this exciting field of investigation, namely how neurons send processes to their synaptic partners in the embryonic central nervous system to form functional neuronal networks.

INTERESTS:
Outdoor sports (running, hiking, cycling, football), travelling, and playing the guitar.
Mr Thai Binh Nguyen  
Vietnam  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Oncology  
Fitzwilliam College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Ecole Polytechnique  
Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse  

My research focuses on methods for optimization of intensity modulated radiation therapy where the planning target volume extends into the build up region. I believe that this type of advanced technique in radiation therapy can improve significantly a cancer patient’s life. Studying at the prestigious universities of Ecole Polytechnique (X) in France and the University of Cambridge in England will help me in building bridges between Vietnamese researchers and other researchers all over the world.

**INTERESTS:**  
Golf, football, table tennis, walking ... I enjoy traveling and my next continent will be Africa.

Ms Sarah Nouwen**  
Netherlands  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in International Studies  
Emmanuel College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Utrecht University  

Ever since participating at the age of eleven in an international summer camp (CISV) in Japan, I have felt at home on the international plane. My legal studies in Utrecht and Cape Town and working experiences with international organisations (UN), NGOs (Plan Senegal), the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs and a law firm in Paris revealed my passion for international law. They also fostered a fascination with the interaction between international law and politics, so after obtaining an LLM at Utrecht University I read International Relations in Cambridge. Before I embarked on the PhD project, the call from the reality of the “world out there” was too strong. I worked for a year as legal and political advisor on the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in challenging Sudan. Now I hope to combine the working experiences and studies in a thesis on the interaction between international criminal courts and the domestic rule of law in states in transition from war to peace.

**INTERESTS:**  
International law and politics, literature, CISV, theatre, running, journalism, transitional justice.

Mr Mikkel Oestergaard  
Denmark  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Epidemiology  
Clare Hall  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
University of Copenhagen  

2004–07 were excellent years in Cambridge, both socially and academically. After my MPhil and two years of PhD studies, I now look forward to one more year of Cambridge life and finalizing my PhD. My project aims to identify human genetic interactions relevant to cancer susceptibility.

**INTERESTS:**  
Travel, human rights, population genetics, sports (e.g. running, golf, surfing and scuba diving).
Ms Xiaohan Pan
China

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biotechnology
Downing College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Zhejiang University

My project is to design a novel contact lens glucose sensor to achieve real-time glucose monitoring for diabetes management. Two unparallel features, non-invasive and continuous, will benefit diabetics by releasing them from the six-time-per-day finger-pricking assays. Such a contact lens sensing approach might also be employed to monitor other ailments such as stress, hypertension, as well as heart and kidney diseases, and have applications in sports medicine and training.

INTERESTS:
A sports girl, I also like singing and reading.

Miss Irene Peano
Italy

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social Anthropology
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

My research will focus on issues of gender, sexuality and the body in the context of sex workers trafficking from Nigeria to Italy. I aim at actively contributing not only to anthropological knowledge, but also to more political and social issues related to the lives of these women within a wider social context, in a time when migration and the rights of migrants are becoming a central issue for European and global politics.

INTERESTS:
Travelling, grassroots politics, cinema, art.

Mr Towfique Raj
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Genetics
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Pennsylvania
Drexel University

I aspire to be part of new generation of research professionals who will use genomic technology to develop novel computational approaches to prognostics, diagnostics and treatment of diseases. My research will focus on the genetic variation in the human population and its contribution to disease. A PhD from Cambridge with the resources of Gates Scholarship will allow me to fulfill not only my career goal of becoming a scientist but also my dream of using my career to benefit humanity.

Ms Rebecca Rancourt
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Anatomy
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Syracuse University

I am looking forward to the adventure that lies ahead in jolly old England. My greatest feat will be remembering to look the opposite way when crossing the street. I am excited to do research in the fascinating field of Epigenetics. There can be a million reasons not to try something new...You just need one great reason to begin!

INTERESTS:
My interests include dancing (Ballroom, Flamenco, Salsa etc.), rowing, attending concerts (rock, indie, opera) and a mean game of kick-ball.
Mr Andre Sartori
Brazil

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Earth Sciences
Emmanuel College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Universidade de São Paulo

I thoroughly enjoy my studies at Cambridge. Studying in an excellent scientific centre such as the University of Cambridge is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn and develop myself professionally as I will work on a daily basis with a leader in my field of interest. Moreover, living abroad for three years and meeting people from all over the world will certainly broaden my horizons and provide me with an insight into several different cultures. I am very grateful to the Gates Cambridge Trust for making this possible.

INTERESTS:
Sports (table tennis, swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving) and music (blues harmonica and guitar player).

Ms Erin Snider
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social and Political Science
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
School of Oriental and African Studies, London
James Madison University

My research focuses on the intersection of politics and economic reform in the Middle East through an examination of democracy and economic assistance programs funded by the United States to Egypt and Morocco since 1990. I am particularly interested in examining political change, democratization and economic reform broadly and in relation to the Middle East and Asia. After finishing my degree, I hope to work on democratic governance and poverty reduction programs with the United Nations or an NGO focusing on these areas in the region.

INTERESTS:
I’ve always been fascinated by politics and international relations, particularly politics in the Middle East and Central Asia. I’m also interested in sustainable development issues, and humanitarian demining after working on the landmine issue for several years. Other interests include photography, music, travel, films, modern Arabic literature and cooking (noble attempts at it anyway!).

Mr Paul Rhatigan
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Arizona

I thoroughly enjoy my studies at Cambridge. My research in the Nanoscience Centre focuses on a novel method to study the electrical properties of DNA using nanofabrication techniques. The field of molecular electronics has fascinating applications that are only beginning to be realized. I’m looking forward to tackling new challenges and taking advantage of interesting opportunities in the coming year.

INTERESTS:
Rowing, running, traveling, cooking, and being adventurous!
### Ms Uta Staiger
**Germany**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in German  
King's College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Girona University  
University of Cambridge  
Edinburgh University

Drawing both on previous academic research and my professional background working at a cultural policy research institute in Spain, my PhD focuses on culture and citizenship in the European Union. On the one hand, it examines the link between culture and citizenship as it is developed in political theory and articulated in European Union policy. On the other, it analyses visual research projects on citizenship and migration in the EU as affective studies on political membership, and as forms of informal political participation.

**INTERESTS:**
Languages, travel, literature, international politics, cultural policies and theory.

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### Mr Oliver Stegle
**Germany**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Physics  
St Edmund's College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Freiburg  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

I get excited where Physics meets other fields. I want to work on a machine learning approach of Bio Informatics which allows the combination of Physics and Mathematics with life science.

**INTERESTS:**
Music (playing guitar), sports (skiing, squash), travelling and any kind of social activity :)

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### Ms Federica Sulas
**Italy**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Archaeology  
Gonville & Caius College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge  
Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli

I intend to pursue a PhD in Geoarchaeology. My goal is to investigate the landscape history of the Aksum region, northern Ethiopia, and to examine the human-environment relationship through a long-term perspective. I see my research placed within a broader trend which explicitly aims to contribute through the archaeological data to help inform contemporary debates regarding risk assessment and sustainable development in Africa.

**INTERESTS:**
Swimming, snorkelling, scuba diving, travelling... long-lasting dinners with old friends.

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### Mr Alireza Taheri
**Canada**

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in History & Philosophy of Science & Medicine  
Darwin College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University College London  
University of Essex  
University of Toronto

The focus of my PhD will be on the origins of the feeling of guilt. I will look at this question from philosophical and psychoanalytic sources mainly in the works of Nietzsche, Freud and Lacan.

**INTERESTS:**
Psychoanalysis, philosophy, running, cycling, swimming, yoga.
Miss Kuenga Wangmo*
Bhutan

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Archaeology
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Harvard University
University of Cambridge

I am interested in strengthening the historiography of my country through studying past material culture. My research will include extracting information from tree and tree-rings in association with other archaeological finds to construct a more objective account of the past.

INTERESTS:
Osteoarchaeology, architecture, contemplating on the ‘construct’ of Gross National Happiness (GNH), period movies, reading, traveling and good food.

Mr Jerrell Whitehead
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Economic & Social History
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University
University of Washington

With my entrance into Cambridge and King’s College, my goal for the immediate future is to study obesity and health policy with regard to the minority populations of England. Much like the United States, the obesity epidemic is a severe and growing problem, which makes research on this matter of the highest importance.

INTERESTS:
Dancing, banana pancakes, oatmeal, bodybuilding, college football, fine timepieces, Disney movies, discussing the business of Hollywood, arguing over sports, FIFA World Cup on Gamecube.

Mr Brady Wagoner
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social and Political Science
Corpus Christi College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Clark University

I am a cultural psychologist interested in the interdependency between culture and mind. In this vein, my dissertation explores how stories, we learn through interactions in society, shape the way we remember new events in our lives. I have also published papers on experimental methodology, the Self, consciousness, and the history of psychology. In regards to this last research interest, I have co-created the F.C. Bartlett Internet Archive (www.bartlett.sps.cam.ac.uk). Upon graduation I hope to continue research both in and outside of academia.

INTERESTS:
Philosophy, travel, mountaineering, climbing, contemporary art, photography, architecture and literature.

Mr Laur Vallikivi
Estonia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Polar Studies
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Tartu University

I am doing a PhD in Polar Studies with a focus on the religious conversion of Arctic reindeer-herders in Russia. While in Cambridge, I hope to develop my expertise in social anthropology for contributing to the development of the discipline at home.

In the long term perspective, I intend to work for the benefit of the northern indigenous communities by raising, through my research, such issues as human rights and sustainable development in the circumpolar areas.

INTERESTS:
Travel, hiking, cycling, swimming, animal ecology, art history.
2005

Mr Diego Winkelried
Peru

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Economics
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Bologna

My deep interest in social behaviour together with the fact that I come from a developing country led me to enquire about the ways to overcome the barriers to improve living standards. Realising that economic reasoning helps greatly to solve this puzzle, I decided to pursue a career in Economics. Thanks to the Gates Cambridge Trust I have now the opportunity to refine and expand my expertise on development economics for policy design and to learn among colleagues from a wide cultural spectrum.

**INTERESTS:**
Economics; music (Classic rock, Latin jazz); travelling.

Miss Shazia Afzal
India

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Computer Science
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Jamia Millia Islamia University

The pulse of being in one of the most prestigious seats of learning leaves you in awe. The academic culture is exemplary and I consider it a privilege to be here. I expect my time here to prove to be one of the most remarkable & rewarding experiences.

**INTERESTS:**
I love reading Tolstoy and George Eliot. I’m a nature person and love water! My research involves Intelligent Learning Environments & Affect Recognition from non-verbal behaviour.

Mr Amir Amel Zadeh
Germany

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Finance
Clare Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Bayreuth
University of California (Berkeley)

Studying an MPhil in Finance at Cambridge offered me a valuable experience in many ways so far. I have not only grown academically but also personally. Every day I had the opportunity to meet extraordinary people from diverse backgrounds, to expand my knowledge in different fields, enter into lively discussions over a cup of coffee or simply have fun with friends; an experience that I would not want to have missed and that I look forward to continuing during my PhD studies in Finance for the following two years. “The quality of our life comes down to the richness of our thoughts.”

**INTERESTS:**
Travelling, rowing, running, squash, reading, meeting people.

Mr Axel Bangert
Germany

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Modern and Medieval Languages
Gonville & Caius College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Humboldt University, Berlin
University of Cambridge
University of Bologna

In my PhD, I investigate filmic representations of the Third Reich in contemporary German culture. As the Third Reich is turning into a remoter episode of history, collective memory of the events is undergoing profound transformations, both influenced and mirrored by filmic representations. I hope that their analysis will provide essential insight into the development of German national identity and historical consciousness.

**INTERESTS:**
I’m interested in all kinds of music, from popular and classical music to jazz and modern compositions. What I probably enjoy most is improvising on the piano. Moreover, I love reading, and besides German literature I take an interest in Italian, English and American literature. Not least, I like watching movies, and I’m especially fond of Asian films.
Ms Sophie Beeren
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemistry
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of New South Wales

The research I am undertaking in the field of Supramolecular Chemistry is focused on the synthesis of new macrocyclic compounds with the ability to recognise and selectively trap small molecules within them. Thus far, living and working in Cambridge has provided me with a unique opportunity to improve my skills as a synthetic and analytical chemist while exposing me to new areas of chemistry and encouraging a broader interest in science and its possible applications. I am interested in pursuing a career in academia, with a particular emphasis on teaching.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy playing the violin and piano, going to concerts, watching plays, reading and cooking. I like dancing, swimming and playing tennis.

Ms Pashmina Bendale
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Pune

At Cambridge my research will be in the broad area of biologically motivated computer vision and image processing. I work on detection and classification of objects in images. I believe that progress made in this area will enable us to build rather intelligent machines, enabling them to see and analyse data on a real time basis.

I am excited about studying at this world class institute and meeting scholars from all over the world. Cambridge has been a fantastic experience so far. The diversity in fellow students and the culture-rich surroundings makes Cambridge a truly unique experience.

INTERESTS:
Rowing is my favourite sport. I hope to continue it in Cambridge. I like travelling to new places, especially sanctuaries, beaches and hills. During free time, I love to do some craft or collage. I am also fond of cooking.

Mr Pradipta Biswas
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
Kalyani University, India

The subject of my PhD is ‘Computer Support for Special Needs’. Here I am working to unlock the world of physically challenged persons. We are developing a simulator to help with the design and evaluation of assistive interfaces. The simulator will predict the likely interaction patterns when undertaking a task using a variety of input devices, and estimate the time to complete the task in the presence of different disabilities and for different levels of skill.

INTERESTS:
To be honest it is F (space, time, mood). Currently it is reading, music and cricket. I am a member of the BA society cricket team of Trinity College.

Mr Conway Blake
Jamaica

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Legal Studies
Corpus Christi College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of West Indies

I am from Jamaica, and previously studied law in the Caribbean and at Cambridge. With the Gates scholarship I hope to pursue research leading to the award of a PhD in International Law.

More specifically, I will look at the implementation of international human rights through regional mechanisms in the Americas and Africa. Subsequently, I hope to mix an academic career with international law practice.

INTERESTS:
Music, theatre, travel, debating, mooting, walking and reading.
Mr Kofi Boakye
Ghana

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Criminology
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Ghana

Crime anywhere is crime everywhere. My current research focuses on the causes of crime, with particular emphasis on juvenile crime. I am grateful to the Trust for financial support.

INTERESTS:
Travelling, reading, writing, fishing.

Ms Tiffany Bogich
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Zoology
St Catharine’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Pennsylvania State University

I am interested in patterns of threat and extinction due to habitat loss, and the use of quantitative methods to aid in both understanding past and present patterns of species’ losses and making future conservation decisions. Particularly I am interested in revisiting the Species Area Relationship and its use in predicting species’ extinctions. I have begun by looking at empirical evidence of species’ threat status by ecoregion across the globe (data provided by the World Wildlife Fund, US) in relation to global patterns of land-use change. I then plan to revise existing methods and develop new quantitative tools for assessing and predicting the effect of land-use change, at varying intensities and spatial scales, on species’ threat status.

INTERESTS:
Outside of my specific area of research, I am also interested in questions of optimal monitoring and issues of environmental justice, particularly in South Africa. In extracurricular activities, I run the ecology lunch talk series for the Department of Zoology and play cricket for both the university team and the local NCI Ladies Club.

Mr Christopher Bohn
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemical Engineering
Christ’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Princeton University

While at Cambridge my research is focusing on clean coal technology, specifically how to combust coal while controlling carbon dioxide emissions. I was born in Austria and attended Gymnasium before returning to the US for high school. I graduated from Princeton University in 2006 with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy almost all sports including snowboarding, biking, running, and basketball. I also love to read and travel when time allows.

Ms Molly Crockett
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Experimental Psychology
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of California (Los Angeles)

Originally from Irvine, CA, I completed my BS in Psychobiology at UCLA, where I studied the neural mechanisms of emotion regulation. At Cambridge, I am exploring how serotonin modulates interactions between prefrontal (cognitive) and subcortical (motivational) brain systems, and how these interactions contribute to self-regulation and impulsivity. I’m hoping my experiences at Cambridge will lead me either in the direction of an academic career in research and teaching, or toward an advocacy role in public health policy.

INTERESTS:
I spend as much time as possible traveling through Europe and elsewhere. When I’m in Cambridge, I sing with King’s Voices and compete on the Varsity Blind Wine Tasting Team. I’ve also been involved with the Gates Scholars Council. Other interests: running, biking, cycling, being outdoors; reading, writing, cinema, photography; cooking, enjoying good food and wine.
Mr Simon De Smet**
Belgium

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Law
Gonville & Caius College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Columbia University
Lund University
Ghent University

My research focuses on what Justice Jackson once described as “establishing incredible events by credible evidence”. I am thinking about how international courts and tribunals can make their fact-finding process more efficient and at the same time more accurate. This entails looking at a broad spectrum of procedural and evidentiary rules and a lot of comparative law.

**INTERESTS:**
Apart from my professional interests, I enjoy literature and especially classical music.

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Ms Natalia Del Campo
Spain

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Psychiatry
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Utrecht University
Autónoma University, Madrid

Trained as a psychologist in Madrid (Spain) and as a neuroscientist in Utrecht (The Netherlands), I’m very interested in the interface between neuropsychology and fundamental neuroscience as a way to identify the neuro-biological mechanisms underlying psychopathology. For my PhD, I am combining various neuroimaging techniques with psychopharmacology, neuropsychological testing and genetic profiling on various psychiatric patient groups, such as attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

**INTERESTS:**
All cultures and languages, Greek and Roman mythology, travelling, running, good food with good wine, Italian coffee, the sun, the sea (especially the Caribbean!) and last but not least, all about the human brain.

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Mr Carlos Del Cueto*
Mexico

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil & PhD in Musicology
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cardiff

Music can truly be a path for great learning about who we are and how to be in this life. The overwhelmingly positive effects for people that make music in groups, and that know how to listen, are of huge interest to me. I’m delighted, therefore, to be in Cambridge active as a musician (mostly as a conductor) and musicologist.

**INTERESTS:**

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Mr Zhao Ding
China

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Pharmacology
Sidney Sussex College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Imperial College London

My research focuses on Calcium signalling, a fundamental process that controls many cellular functions as diverse as contraction, secretion, fertilization, division, development, apoptosis, memory and learning. The Gates Trust offers me not only the funding, but also the chance to meet other highly motivated Gates scholars. I will take advantage of this opportunity to build my skills and network so that I can pursue my goals further.

**INTERESTS:**
Tennis, ping-pong, fencing, swimming.
Dr Justin Echouffo Tcheugui
Cameroon

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Epidemiology
Wolfson College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Paris VI
University of Yaounde I

I am interested in the primary and secondary prevention of diabetes and related conditions. The focus of my PhD research will be the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of screening for type 2 diabetes. The results of this work will inform policy making about screening for diabetes. I hope to pursue my career in academia, to be involved in advanced epidemiological research and public health policy-making.

**INTERESTS:**
Reading (history and biographies), watching movies/documentaries/football matches, music and jogging.

Dr Sebhat Erqou
Ethiopia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Public Health & Primary Care
Downing College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
Gondar University

I believe doing my PhD in Public Health and Primary Care will help me to become a better health researcher and open opportunities for me to contribute to the making of health policies in my country.

**INTERESTS:**
Praying, reading, playing international chess, swimming, listening to songs.

Ms Amparo Flores
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Engineering
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Universidad de las Américas, Puebla

Born in the Philippines, I moved to California in 1989. My past education and experience have been grounded in environmental engineering, specifically water and sanitation issues, but I hope to explore related socio-economic and policy issues at Cambridge. My research here is focused on developing ecological sanitation alternatives for urban areas in both developing and industrialized countries. I’m also hoping to round out my technical education with courses in the humanities and interactions with people from other disciplines. After Cambridge, I plan to return to public service and eventually pursue a leadership position in environmental management and policy.

**INTERESTS:**
Water and sanitation, sustainable development, public education, and public policy.

Ms Nuria Gonzalez-Rabade
Mexico

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Plant Sciences
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Universidad de las Américas, Puebla

I have always liked Biology and everything related to it, especially Molecular Biology, Genetics, Immunology and Biotechnology, since they possess, to some extent, the answer to many of the problems we are facing at the moment. I would like to contribute as much as I can in improving the lives of others, dedicating myself to a very rewarding field of science: edible vaccines. My PhD, in particular, focuses on an AIDS edible vaccine.

**INTERESTS:**
Literature (both as a reader and as a writer), music (interested in a wide range of genres as well as playing the piano) and arts in general (photography, painting, etc). I also love travelling and getting to know different cultures. I play squash, like to swim, and love watching football.
Ms Ximin He  
China

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Chemistry  
Lucy Cavendish College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Tsinghua University  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

My current research focuses on Polymer Electronics, especially fabrication of FETs and PVs through polymer synthesis, which may have promising application in displays and solar cells.

INTERESTS:  
Wish the life here fruitful and colourful ¯\_(ツ)_/¯ violin, skiing, dancing, swimming, taekwondo, singing, and rowing...

Mr Jonathan Hollander  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Materials Science and Metallurgy  
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
University of Cambridge  
University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign)

I grew up in New York, and went on to do my undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Materials Science & Engineering, with minors in Physics and Leadership Studies. During that time, I performed research at a variety of institutions, including Syracuse University, the University of California in Santa Barbara, and MIT. I came to Cambridge in 2005 on a Winston Churchill Scholarship to complete my MPhil in Semiconductor Physics working with Prof. Colin Humphreys in the Materials department. I stayed on to pursue my PhD in Prof. Humphreys' research group working on gallium nitride semiconductor light emitting devices, funded by a Gates Cambridge scholarship. This work plays an important role in the solution to the global energy crisis (and makes me feel like I'm saving the world). Now in my final year of study, I'm looking to apply my scientific background toward other social enterprises such as policy-making.

INTERESTS:  
Underwater Hockey, Ultimate Frisbee, music (all types, but particularly classic rock), and travel.

Mr Franz Huber  
Austria

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Geography  
St John's College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Salzburg University  
Oxford Brookes University

My research at Cambridge focuses on the role of social networks on knowledge flows and regional economic development. I aim to investigate how personal networks affect uneven economic development and social inequalities. The community of the Gates Scholars represents a great opportunity to discuss intellectual and practical problems in a truly international perspective. I hope that my Cambridge experience will prepare me for having an impact on the academic as well as the “real” world.

INTERESTS:  
Sports (cycling, mountaineering, skiing, tennis), music (piano), international newspapers, politics, philosophy of science.

Ms Evgenia Ilyinskaya  
Iceland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Geography  
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Royal Holloway, University of London

I was born in Russia and moved to Iceland when I was 10 years old. My PhD topic is in the field of Volcanology. Volcanoes are one of the principal natural sources of reactive gas and aerosol species. Low-altitude emissions from persistently degassing volcanoes have significant local and sometimes regional effects on the atmosphere, terrestrial ecology, agriculture and human health. My project focuses on emissions and deposition of water-soluble volcanic aerosol, and involves a significant amount of field work. I work on actively degassing volcanoes in Central America, Hawaii, Japan and Antarctica.

INTERESTS:  
I took up rowing when I came to Cambridge and last season I was selected to row in the University 2nd crew in the annual Boat Race against Oxford. I intend to continue rowing with Cambridge University Women’s Boat Club in the upcoming academic year.
Mr Michal Jezek
Czech Republic

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Economics
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Charles University, Prague

I am interested in finance and macro-economics. My PhD dissertation will consist of essays on finance.

INTERESTS:
Sports, travelling, music, films and cooking with my wife.

Mr Thomas Johnson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Brain Repair
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Northwestern University

I am originally from Chicago, IL in the United States and completed my undergraduate work at Northwestern University. I am honored to have been elected a Gates Scholar and am currently pursuing a PhD at the Centre for Brain Repair where I am evaluating the efficacy of stem cell therapy as a treatment modality for glaucoma. Upon completion of my time in Cambridge, I plan to return to the US to begin a medical degree at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, MD. My academic interest lies in ophthalmology and particularly in glaucoma, a neuro-degenerative disorder of the optic nerve that eventually leads to blindness. Ultimately, I would like to obtain a position as a clinician-scientist so that I may treat patients with sight-threatening disorders as well as conduct research that will benefit the field on a grander scale.

INTERESTS:
Personally, I enjoy skiing, rugby and tennis. I am also a black belt in shotokan karate, and was the captain of the Cambridge University Karate Club. I love baseball and American football (although I promise to give cricket and “soccer” a chance). I am a fan of all types of music though I am partial towards playing and listening to the acoustic guitar.

Ms Zorica Jovanovic
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Clinical Biochemistry
Corpus Christi College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Hamburg

Obesity is now a worldwide epidemic which is associated with a number of health complications, including diabetes, hypertension and cancer. Collectively, these diseases represent a major public health problem, being the main causes of morbidity and mortality in the Western world. Over the past decade, enormous advances have been made in our understanding of the molecular regulation of mammalian body weight with special emphasis on the hypothalamus as a centre of neuronal control of body weight and appetite. In my PhD studies, I aim to identify novel components of the homeostatic system that regulates body weight, specifically within the hypothalamus. Ultimately, my aim is to return to Germany and work at the interface between scientific research and public policy.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy drama and reading books with historical background. Furthermore, I take interest in organizing cultural events within the Serbian orthodox church community.
Mr Vijay Kanuru
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemistry
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Pune
Nagarjuna University

Catalysis is a field of research with the great power of innovation and it is a pivotal science which will help us meet the challenges of the future in the aspects of green chemistry and renewable energies. Major improvements in catalysis will require not only design of potential catalysts but also an essential understanding of the genesis of catalytic phenomenon at atomic level and its operational mechanism. I'm pursuing molecular level understanding of metal catalyzed carbon-carbon and nitrogen coupling reactions. During the course of my research, I have successfully solved a problem which has been in controversy for decades by demonstrating that the metal nanoparticles catalysed Sonogashira reaction is indeed surface mediated and have been awarded the “Young Scientist Award” in the 14th International Congress on Catalysis, Seoul for this discovery. It is a great privilege to study in the Cambridge University and I’m grateful to the Gates Foundation for its invaluable support.

INTERESTS:
Music, travelling, gardening, photography, languages, meeting new people, clubbing, snooker, golf.

Mr Ethan Kaufman
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biochemistry
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Toronto

In my time at Cambridge, I hope to contribute to our understanding of the molecular events required to generate a remarkably complex adult body plan from a single cell embryo. Such developmental processes are often found to be deregulated in cancer, and thus research in this area promises to provide insight into cancer etiology and reveal opportunities for therapeutic intervention. I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Gates Trust for enabling me to pursue this opportunity of a lifetime.

INTERESTS:
Consistent with my interest in science, I’m an avid reader of social and economic history as these areas also help me to make sense of the world. To keep my mind fresh, I play basketball, soccer, and ultimate.

Mr Jeremy Kessler
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History & Philosophy of Science & Medicine
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University

The Gates has provided me with an incredible opportunity to explore connections between my undergraduate work in literary theory and the history of science. I hope to chart the historical development and internal logic of such humanistic pursuits as poetry and criticism as they coincide with developments in the more “proper” sciences.

INTERESTS:
The Mets, Bob Dylan, baseball, basketball, soccer, early 1960s literary criticism.

Ms Paulina Kolasinska
Poland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Genetics
Clare College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Warsaw University

I am very excited about starting my PhD in Cambridge. My dream is to study principles of animal genetics and development. I think it is both interesting and important to learn about the very basic processes and laws ruling biology. I am especially interested in the influence of chromatin regulation on the cell life.

INTERESTS:
Apart from biology I love skiing and mountain trekking. I spend a lot of time with friends in Polish mountains but when the weather is not the best I like reading books, especially science fiction.
Ms Kathelijne Koops  
Netherlands  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Biological Anthropology  
St John’s College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Utrecht University  

My PhD research is a dream come true: studying wild chimpanzees in the African rainforest! The aim of my PhD is to determine the ecological factors influencing the use of elementary technology in foraging and in shelter construction (i.e. nest building) among the chimpanzees of the Nimba Mountains, Guinea, West Africa. Ultimately, I hope to be able to provide new insights into the possible origins of tool use and material culture. In addition to my research activities in Guinea, I am involved in conservation projects and environmental education of the local people in the Nimba area.  

**INTERESTS:**  
Chimpanzees and other primates; conservation; hiking; theatre; nature; Africa; movies; reading; travelling; art; horse-riding; music; animals; photography; running; culture; and more.

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Mr Daniel Lam  
South Africa  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Clinical Biochemistry  
Fitzwilliam College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cape Town  
Stellenbosch University  

In recent years we have begun to realize that the brain exerts overall control over appetite, energy expenditure, and glucose metabolism. By integrating peripheral metabolic signals in specific interconnected nuclei, the brain can determine the organism’s energy status and formulate appropriate behavioural and metabolic responses. By its nature, a central regulatory mechanism is a powerful and desirable target for pharmacological agents to treat obesity and associated metabolic disorders such as type 2 diabetes. I am very privileged to have the opportunity to enter this field just as exciting advances are being made on several fronts.  

**INTERESTS:**  
I’m an avid squash player, though not as good as I’d like to be. I enjoy outdoor activities including canoeing, cycling, and hiking. I am also passionate about travelling!

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Ms Hang Le  
Vietnam  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Clinical Biochemistry  
Churchill College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of New South Wales  

I am looking forward to the adventure at Cambridge. My career goal changes a bit every now and then, but I hope this experience will be a great start for whatever future direction I may decide to pursue.  

**INTERESTS:**  
Traveling, hiking, making handicrafts, photography and cinema.

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Miss Anne Leone  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Italian  
Sidney Sussex College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Yale University  

My PhD will use the cultural significance of blood in the Middle Ages to interpret the substance’s role in the work of Dante. After finishing my studies I hope to teach literature at the high school or university level.  

**INTERESTS:**  
I sing in a band that plays many different kinds of music. I like to learn folk songs and dances from different cultures (currently the bulk of my repertoire is Slavic). I play the violin (mostly solo work but I would love to form a string quartet at Cambridge). I like going to films, plays, and concerts. I follow current events and have a particular interest in issues of criminal justice.
Mr Larry Li  
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering  
Emmanuel College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of British Columbia

As a member of the Injector Dynamics Group, I work towards improving the stability of and reducing the emissions from many combustion devices, most notably gas turbines and rocket engines. My current research focuses on the use of global shear modes in flames to weaken the thermoacoustic feedback loop that triggers combustion instability, a problem severely limiting the development of the next generation of low NOx aeroplane engines.

INTERESTS:
Photography, snowboarding, reading, and travelling.

Mr Aaron Lobo  
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Zoology  
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Wildlife Institute of India  
Saurashtra University, Rajkot  
Goa University

My research will address the impact of a highly unsustainable form of fishery, shrimp trawling, on incidentally caught species, laying special emphasis on sea snakes. Sea snakes are among the apex predators of these near shore marine ecosystems and thus play a key role in their functioning.

Consequences of their loss/significant depletion are largely unknown. I hope to see my research influence a paradigm shift from the present unsustainable form of fishery to a more sustainable one in India.

INTERESTS:
My interests are closely linked to the kind of work I do and are basically tools to explore the natural world. This said, I have a keen interest in reptiles and have grown up keeping and breeding several species in captivity. I love trekking in the wilderness, swimming in mountain streams and scuba diving in coral reefs. I share my experiences with others through writing about my travels and my photographs.

Mr Nicholas-Jacomo Macaluso  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemistry  
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Hobart and William Smith Colleges

I will be working in the Unilever Centre, and to say I am excited about this opportunity is an understatement. What will the future hold for me in Cambridge? What will I accomplish? Only time can answer these questions. For the moment, I’m simply looking forward to hard work, completing my degree, and enjoying life.

INTERESTS:
Reading, sailing (though I haven’t done it in a while), films, opera, and traveling.

Ms Julie MacArthur  
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History  
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge  
Toronto University

My research focuses on ethnicity and border conflicts in Colonial Kenya. I hope to use this research not only to further our understanding of history in Africa, but also to gain insights into the current conflicts facing the continent. Special thanks to the Gates, Trinity Hall, and my family for their continued support of my research.

INTERESTS:
I am interested in colonial and postcolonial histories. I also have a special interest in films and film festivals. I am an avid traveller and enjoy playing and listening to music.
Ms Iris Montero Sobrevilla
Mexico

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History & Philosophy of Science
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Warwick
Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

I am interested in how knowledge travels and transforms over time: on how it is “translated”, in a broad sense. My work focuses on eighteenth-century French encyclopaedias and how they present Mexican Natural History. In particular, I study the mechanisms used by encyclopaedists to transform traditional knowledge emerging from the Spanish colonies into empirical, practical, even modern, knowledge on the page. Being a Gates scholar enables me to work on an area that has only recently started to catch attention in the English-speaking world. I see my time at Cambridge as an opportunity to, in a way, emulate these curious eighteenth-century men and “translate” what is found in one world, to another.

INTERESTS:
Creative writing – mostly short stories, yoga, Latin dancing, singing – specially bossa nova, and Mozartian opera.

Mr Jonathan Miller
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Engineering
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
McGill University
University of Calgary

It is my goal to combine work in the areas of dynamic analysis, mechatronics, and controls at both the theoretical and practical levels to improve the safety and efficiency of motor vehicles. I intend to work with Canadian institutions internationally, as I believe in promoting Canada’s international presence and developing the budding Canadian automotive community. I am excited by the prospect of my involvement with the Cambridge Vehicle Dynamics Consortium (CVDC), part of the Cambridge Transportation Research Group, which has studied vehicle dynamics for over 20 years. The knowledge I will acquire in the strong learning environment at the CVDC, as well as the hands-on experience I will receive through use of the Experimental Heavy Vehicle, will greatly help me embark upon my intended international career. What is arguably most important about my time at Cambridge, though, is that it will allow me to return to my childhood days of playing with big trucks.

INTERESTS:
I thoroughly enjoy traveling, and studying diverse cultures and languages. I am an avid automotive enthusiast, constantly racing, repairing, and modifying motor vehicles. I participate in various mountain sports, including snowboarding, hiking, and biking. I also like urban activities such as Ultimate Frisbee, Latin dance, volunteering, and teaching.

Mr David Motadel
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Freiburg

My PhD project will be an analysis of Germany’s Islam policy during the Second World War. Generally, I am interested in the role of Western concepts of Islam in foreign policy and grand strategy in the colonial age and the era of the world wars. I am certain that my studies will sharpen my analytical skills in politics and intercultural issues and I am most grateful to the Gates Trust for giving me the opportunity to carry out my research in Cambridge. I hope to meet interesting people from different countries and fields of research and I am certain to gain excellent experiences that will influence my studies and future life.

INTERESTS:
Tennis, surfing, photography, chess, travelling, philosophy of science. Apart from my studies I am writing for several newspapers and journals – particularly about the Middle East.
Mr Jens Niederste-Ostholt
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Astronomy
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Princeton University

I recently graduated from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Astrophysics and I am now doing research at the Institute of Astronomy for a PhD in Astrophysics. I am planning on concentrating either on observational cosmology or galactic structure.

INTERESTS:
My main interests include volleyball and photography. I’ve joined the Cambridge University Volleyball Club and I currently play for the Blues team. I started photographing whilst an undergrad and I have worked both with black and white, color, and digital techniques. Other than that I enjoy reading, art, other sports, cooking, good food, languages and being with friends.

Ms Giedre Motuzaite Matuzeviciute
Lithuania

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Archaeology
Downing College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Vilnius University

For my PhD studies in Cambridge I am investigating the earliest appearance and subsequent geographical spread of domesticated plant species in the steppe zone of Europe. I am carrying out archaeological excavations in Ukraine and collecting mostly archaeobotanical data for my research.

INTERESTS:
I am particularly keen on alpine hiking and the exploration of the remote corners of the world, such as Caucasus, Central Asia or Northern Siberia. For sports, I enjoy scuba-diving, playing soccer and tennis. To run a full marathon is my near future challenge.

Mr Yew Ng
Singapore

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Zoology
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Imperial College London

My research topic at Cambridge is on the aerodynamics involved in the flight of dragonflies. Specifically, I will be studying the fluid structural formations and interactions which lead to the high lift performance of dragonfly wings. This, however, would have been impossible without the necessary support, so many thanks to the Trust!

INTERESTS:
Most sports in general though I prefer running, dragonboating and playing badminton. Chilling out in a cafe is another favourite.

Mr Vladimir Orlov
Russia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Music
Clare College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Nizhny Novgorod State Glinka Conservatory

My research interests are concentrated on the world of Russian symbolism (Skryabin, Rachmaninov) and on the Socialist realism (Prokofiev, Shostakovich). I studied in Russia in Nizhniy Novgorod for five years, and then in Moscow for two years. In Russia I obtained the degrees of organ and musicology. (I have also studied organ in Hettingen, Germany for a bit.) The serious change in my life happened when I got the Fulbright fellowship (the first place among the Russian participants) in 2005 for one year at the Library of Congress, Washington DC. By that time it became clear to me that my area of knowledge around Russian culture and music might be of even bigger value and importance outside my home country as within it. Hereafter I brought myself to apply for postgraduate studies in Cambridge.

INTERESTS:
Reading, singing, playing piano and organ. I am trying to be wide-open to new activities; thus I started playing football recently, and it is still not finished. My real passion and life is constituted by the CU Russian Society, of which I am a head. Thus, you may always find me at the musical concerts (both classical and not), and on the web-page of the CU Russian Society, and we shall decide what to do. :))
Ms Alexandria Richart
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Biochemistry
Clare Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Pennsylvania State University
University of Cambridge

For my PhD project I will be investigating the relationship of DNA methylation to chromatin structure and gene expression control.

**INTERESTS:**
I enjoy horseback riding, fencing, and spending time outside. I especially love to swing dance.

Ms Kate Parlett
Australia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Legal Studies
Jesus College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Queensland

International law was historically conceived as the rules legally binding on states in their relations with each other. But in modern times a more multi-faceted view of legal relations in international law is emerging. It is the aim of my thesis to examine the position of the individual in the international legal system. The first part of the thesis sets out the classical framework of the international legal system. The second part of the thesis contains an examination of four significant areas of international law: mixed claims, international humanitarian law, international criminal law and human rights law, explaining how and to what extent individuals have rights and obligations. The final part of the thesis asks whether the situation reflected in these four fields can any longer be accommodated within the four corners of the classical framework, and what alternative framework might be posited which takes due account of the reality of individuals in the international legal system.

**INTERESTS:**
Travel, reading, writing, cooking, epiculture, history and music.

Ms Rachel Pike
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Chemistry
Emmanuel College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Northwestern University

I work in the Centre for Atmospheric Science studying the effects of large scale biofuel production on atmospheric chemistry. I hope to find out what a (partially) biomass-dependent energy future will mean for our climate and air quality, as realized in a global chemistry-climate model.

**INTERESTS:**
Dance, white water rafting, cooking, swimming, hiking, and East Africa.

Ms Alexandria Richart
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Biochemistry
Clare Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Pennsylvania State University

For my PhD project I will be investigating the relationship of DNA methylation to chromatin structure and gene expression control.

**INTERESTS:**
I enjoy horseback riding, fencing, and spending time outside. I especially love to swing dance.

Mr Paul Robustelli
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Chemistry
Darwin College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Pomona College

At Cambridge I will be developing computational techniques based on experimental restraints that will be used to obtain structural and dynamic information about proteins and applying these techniques to investigate the processes of protein folding and misfolding.

**INTERESTS:**
Sports (ultimate, running, skiing), literature, films, music, travel, nature.
Mr Sergejs Saksonovs
Latvia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Economics
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Towson University

I am excited about starting the road towards a PhD degree in Economics. My research interest is current account deficits of different countries – essentially the ways countries can manage their foreign debts and avoid crises and defaults that have become common in the nineties. I believe that one of the key strengths of Cambridge University is the climate of interaction between different disciplines. Consequently, I am very happy to have the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with so many talented individuals from all over the world.

INTERESTS:
Photography, coins, debating, music, movies, literature.

Mr Sushil Saigal
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Geography
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Oxford
Indian Institute of Forest Management

I am a forester by training and have been involved with several environmental NGOs in India. I grew up in New Delhi and was always interested in living beings – animals and plants. I studied zoology at the undergraduate level and then shifted to forestry. As part of my forestry work, I got an opportunity to travel extensively in rural areas within and outside India. During this time, I became increasingly aware of the close link between environment and development issues. In order to understand this link better, I first did a certificate course on Sustainable Environmental Management at Berkeley and then joined the MPhil in Environment, Society, and Development at Cambridge. I completed the MPhil in 2006, and am now continuing into PhD. I will be studying agro-forestry in India to understand farmers’ incentives and disincentives for tree planting. After completing my PhD, I intend to work mainly on issues related to interaction between environment and development policies.

INTERESTS:
I like travelling and hiking, listening to Indian music, and following current affairs.

Mr David Serquera Peyro
Spain

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Oncology
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Valencia

I have been working in understanding the function of one protein called GPBP. That protein has been involved in autoimmunity and protein folding diseases. Currently, I am researching the mechanical folding of the multiankyrin repeat proteins. Those proteins are scaffolds in protein-protein interactions and nanosprings in mechanoelectrical transduction processes. Both activities are connecting the protein folding problem with diseases like cancer and prion diseases. The protein folding problem consists of understanding how proteins, the machines and structures of the cell, can reach its three dimensional structure. The correct folding of the proteins determine their function and a bad folding of the protein triggers some diseases. The basic knowledge gained with these researches is serving to produce new drugs in preventing protein aggregation, the consequence of many folding diseases. From my medical experience I understand that protein folding is at the core of modern medicine.

INTERESTS:
I am interested in molecular medicine, astrobiology, scientific policy, philosophy and history of science, formal democracy, chess, scuba-diving and coral bleaching.
Ms Rose Spear
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Materials Science and Metallurgy
Lucy Cavendish College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Fordham University

I am truly honored to belong to the Gates Cambridge community of scholars. In May 2006, I graduated from Fordham University with a Bachelors of Science degree in chemistry. My first research project, functionalizing peptide nanotubes with adhesion proteins and hydroxyapatite, inspired me to combine my love of medicine and research in the field of biomaterials research for clinical applications. In the Materials Science and Metallurgy Department at Cambridge, I am investigating the physical properties and biological interactions of carbon nanotubes and their precursor graphite sheets following functionalization with fibronectin, a bone adhesion protein. My research will be conducted under the guidance of Dr Serena Best, Dr Ruth Cameron, Dr Alan Windle, and Dr Dominik Eder. I look forward to celebrating the future achievements of my fellow scholars and friends and hope to contribute to the advancement of scientific understanding during my three years at Cambridge University.

**INTERESTS:**
My emerging interests are in web design, programming, juggling, and coxing. Continuous interests include hiking, languages, and international travel. Professional interests include nanocomposites, carbon and peptide nanostructures, and clinical materials research.

Mr Kristof Szombati
Hungary

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Social Anthropological Analysis
Darwin College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Eötvös Lorand University of Sciences, Budapest

As a member of Hungary’s burgeoning green movement, I’ve sought to contribute to ecological groups’ insistent (many times desperate) efforts to demonstrate environmentalism’s ability to provide politically viable and morally acceptable solutions to the banes of modern societies.

**INTERESTS:**
Environmental ethics, politics and philosophy; (counter) cultural dynamics and new social movements; alternative development and development alternatives; central and eastern Europe.

Miss Rabab Tamish
Palestine

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Education
Queens’ College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Connecticut
The Hebrew University, Jerusalem

I believe that my course in Cambridge will enrich my research skills and my teaching methods. My plan is to contribute to the development of the quality of teacher education at Bethlehem University. My goal is to help teachers become more aware of the child’s learning process as they develop their ability to reflect on their practices.

**INTERESTS:**
Reading, watching dancing performances and listening to music. I also like to observe children’s play and to record their talks.

Mr Andreas Vlachos
Greece

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Computer Science
Peterhouse

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Edinburgh
Athens University of Economics and Business

Natural Language Processing is used in order to extract information from large volume of texts. However, porting extant methods to other languages and domains is expensive. My research is focused on minimizing the costs involved enabling more people to enjoy the benefits of the research in this domain.

**INTERESTS:**
Classical guitar, Argentine tango, photography, cinema, theater, modern art, football, basketball.
**Miss Megha Amrith**  
*Singapore*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Social Anthropology  
Wolfson College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University College London

My PhD research is about contemporary migration within Southeast Asia – my particular focus is on the migration of Filipino medical workers to Singapore. Through the lives of mobile medical workers, I will explore the globalisation of medical care with all of its ethical, political and cultural implications. My research considers questions of cosmopolitanism and transnationalism as well as anthropologies of tremendous application potential. Being a Gates Scholar gives me an opportunity to meet extraordinary people from various backgrounds. I hope to leverage the knowledge gained during my course to build products and services that would make people’s lives better.

**INTERESTS:**  
Travel, photography, cinema, cities, music, learning new languages.

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**Mrs Shrivalli Bhat**  
*India*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Physics  
Queens’ College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Karnatak University, Dharwad

I will be working in the Cavendish Laboratory with optoelectronics group. I am excited to undertake research on organic polymer semiconductors, which has tremendous application potential. Being a Gates Scholar gives me an opportunity to meet extraordinary people from various backgrounds. I hope to leverage the knowledge gained during my course to build products and services that would make people’s lives better.

**INTERESTS:**  
Travel, nature, photography.

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**Miss Mohita Bhatia**  
*India*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Social & Political Science  
Fitzwilliam College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Jawaharlal Nehru University

My research is aimed at looking at the complexity of Kashmir conflict. Apart from looking at the dispute as a political issue, I intend to unfold the plural and multicultural framework of Jammu and Kashmir state and situate the conflict in a socio-cultural background. I am looking forward to joining the Gates community and interacting with people from diverse cultures as this will be helpful for my research as well.

**INTERESTS:**  
Play and drama, social and political issues, reading academic books, people’s movements.

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**Ms Kathryn Blair**  
*United States*

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Biochemistry  
Pembroke College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Yale University

Embryonic stem cells are derived from the early mammalian embryo and can be propagated indefinitely in the laboratory while preserving their pluripotency, or capacity to make any cell type in the body. These properties lend them the ability to help us understand many aspects of mammalian biology and to potentially treat human disease. My PhD project is focused on deriving embryonic stem cells from the rat and exploring their characteristics and therapeutic potential. Hopefully my research will elucidate the conservation of pluripotency mechanisms among species and shed some light on the nature of pluripotency itself. And with some luck, my work will broaden the capacity of the rat, an already immeasurably useful research animal, to help us discover new and better ways of treating human disease.

**INTERESTS:**  
I enjoy backpacking and the outdoors in general, ballroom dance, live music, theater and art, a good book, good company, and good food.
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Medieval and Renaissance Literature
St John’s College, Dublin

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Dublin

My long-term goal is to obtain a position teaching and researching in the area of medieval studies at third level. My MPhil dissertation examined the negotiation of boundaries in medieval romance literature. In my PhD I would like to explore aspects of the interface between literature and religious belief in medieval culture. For me, the encounter with a world as seemingly remote as that of the Middle Ages challenges my assumptions about my own culture. I believe culture is a powerful engine of change in human history and, as such, its study should form an integral part of academic discourse. During my time here in Cambridge I hope to take full advantage of the opportunities Cambridge provides to deepen both my academic and my personal development.

INTERESTS:
Aside from medieval culture, my interests include the visual arts, languages and linguistics (particularly etymology), Catholicism, aesthetics, Irish history, the recent history of Eastern Europe, personalist philosophy, and learning about other cultures. I love to paint portraits, landscapes and the odd still life. I also enjoy hiking in the mountains, watching old films, visiting art galleries, quizzes, listening to football on the radio, being outdoors, travelling and spending time with friends.
Ms Caitlin Casey
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Astronomy
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Arizona

At Cambridge, I will pursue my PhD in astronomy at the Institute of Astronomy. My past research has focused on observational techniques (large surveys) in relation to extragalactic astronomy and cosmology, studying bulk color properties of active galactic nuclei and the intergalactic medium through Lyman alpha forest absorption line spectra. While reading for my PhD, I hope to learn more about science policy and become active in scientific educational outreach. After my PhD, I hope to continue research as a professional astronomer in observational cosmology.

INTERESTS:
Painting (the wheat fields and vineyards of Provence), hiking (in the American west), yoga, dancing ballet, swimming, cycling, SCUBA diving, math, programming, playing piano and accordion, knitting, helping animals in need. I also enjoy sunshine.

Miss Shauna-Lee Chai
Jamaica

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Plant Sciences
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of the West Indies

I will be studying a tropical montane rainforest in my home country, Jamaica. The area is known for its beauty, and for producing world famous coffee. It is however under threat from various influences such as agriculture and invasive plant species. I hope to study these threats with a view to mitigating them, and allowing the forests of the Blue Mountains to persist for many years to come.

Mrs Rohini Chaturvedi*
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Geography
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
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 David Coutts
New Zealand

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Veterinary Medicine
Clare College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Otago

The immense complexity of the human nervous system has always fascinated me. I feel honoured to accept a Gates Scholarship to allow me to pursue this fascination with a PhD at Cambridge, where I intend to explore and improve the regenerative potential of adult stem cells in the damaged spinal cord.

INTERESTS:
Cambridge University Cricket, social football, punting and drinking Pimms, watching any sport on TV, brewing beer, whisky tasting, formal halls, inventions, science media, current events, cooking large tasty meals, sleeping in, working late, New Zealand music, independent travel, travel literature, scuba diving, classic cars, climbing trees, being tall, building stuff, fixing my bike, golf, London, Cambridge.

Miss Alexandra Cox
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Criminology
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Yale University

I am committed to integrating theoretical, empirical and advocacy work on punishment and incarceration in order to contribute to a more humane justice system. I will be researching adolescents’ perceptions of fairness and the legitimacy of power in youth prisons, focusing on how these perceptions impact adolescents’ well-being while they are incarcerated. My goal is, as an academic, to examine the broader implications of social policy, but also to tell, through empirical research, the stories of those most affected by the social policy of crime and punishment.

INTERESTS:
Reading and writing, film, theater, art, and traveling.

Miss Ria Collingwood***
Trinidad and Tobago

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in International Relations
Queens’ College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Stanford University

At the University of Cambridge, I will pursue a MPhil in International Relations. My research will focus on the African Union (AU) 6th Region Diaspora Initiative which seeks to foster economic and socio-political relationships between Africa and the African Diaspora. More specifically, I am interested in the potentialities and limitations of invoking Pan Africanism as a means of achieving regional development throughout the African continent. In addition, I seek to understand the ways in which regional institutions such as the AU promote or challenge normative assumptions of the nation-state. I am confident that Cambridge University will provide me with the necessary academic mentorship and theoretical framework to pursue meaningful research. As a Gates Scholar and Cambridge graduate, I hope to provide consultation on regional and developmental projects within Africa and the Caribbean.

INTERESTS:
Reading novels (especially George Orwell) and the Bible, singing, dancing, writing poetry, engaging in community service, international politics, and spending quality time with my beloved.
Miss Gillean Denny*
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Architecture
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Penn State University
Cambridge University

Working in theater set design and with sustainable construction programs has cemented my need to be physically involved in the building process from design conception to completion. The past three years have pushed this understanding to the limits, as the lead designer for Penn State University’s house entry for the international student competition, the Solar Decathlon. Working with a dedicated group of students and professionals to create an 800 sqft solar powered home that would integrate fully into an individualized community, made clear the need for further exploration in this exciting field. This year I will be taking on the role as Student Leader for the Cambridge entry in the Europe Solar Decathlon 2010. We are not only responsible as caretakers of the Earth to preserve the world for the future, but to retain our history for that future to come.

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).

Miss Elzbieta Drazkiewicz
Poland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social Anthropology
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Lund University, Sweden
Warsaw University

During the years of my anthropological studies in Poland, Sweden and now England I had great opportunities to expand my cultural interests. In my ethnographic research I have worked on topics as varied as folk religion in Macedonia, Bicycle Messengers Communities in Warsaw and Copenhagen, and post-aristocratic families in Poland. Currently I have decided to focus on the ethnography of NGOs. My interest in nonprofit organisations, especially those focused on development, originated while volunteering in Kosovo and Altay. As a PhD student in Cambridge I am pursuing research on Polish involvement with development issues. My study involves fieldwork in Poland and Sudan.

INTERESTS:
Cycling and swimming are my greatest passions, they can compete only with eating chocolate and partying with friends.
Mr Ausaf Ahmed Farooqui
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Cognition & Brain Sciences
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
All India Institute
National Brain Research Centre, Delhi

There are questions aplenty that one asks about the human self. Issues of the brain and the mind, of living and life. Exploring and wandering in these domains, from the physical to the mental, in Neuroscience, Psychology and Philosophy, one seeks but to refine these age old questions in the context of the present knowledge. I aim to become a student.

INTERESTS:
Philosophy, literature, politics, travelling...

Mr Isam Faik
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Management Studies
Downing College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
McGill University

I am interested in studying the interdependence between technology and organizational processes in developing countries. My PhD research will focus on the implementation of information systems in health care institution. I would like to study the cultural impact of this technology on the individuals and their organization, as well as its effect on the power dynamics within the selected institutions. My field work will be conducted in Morocco. I hope that this work will provide insights that will improve the quality of the services provided through technology to the less fortunate of this world. I have an engineering background with work experience in both the biomedical and the aeronautic industries.

INTERESTS:
Humanitarian work, theology, philosophy, politics, soccer, Kung Fu.

Miss Luise Marion Frenkel
Brazil

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Divinity
Lucy Cavendish College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Universidade de São Paulo

My broad interest for medieval subjects took a twist when in ’98 I bought, in the Musée de Cluny, the book “Théologiens et mystiques au Moyen Age”, by Alain Michel, a translation of long Latin passages. Then I became more interested in Aquinas, particularly in his dialogue with Arab philosophers. I consider the Middle Ages, especially after 11CE, decisive for the development of thought, contributing actively in many things which are now considered good. Trying to understand the background, my interest shifted gradually to earlier Greek authors. When I decided to study this academically, it was clear that I would have to study abroad. Because I came to Cambridge (thanks to the Gates Scholarship), I am now studying the rhetoric and connection with classical ideas of SCE texts related to Councils. I hope to make my best while I have access to excellent resources for this research. It can contribute a better understanding of later authors and valuable insights to present problems.

INTERESTS:
Greek language, Hellenistic philosophy, Byzantine literature, medieval Latin literature, scholastic thought, medieval Arab philosophy, listening to and reading Renaissance and Baroque music, playing flute (recorder and traverso), chant, reading, sightseeing (esp. museums and medieval monuments) and travelling, botany (taxonomy).
Mr Srijit Goswami
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Delhi University
University of Wisconsin–Madison

I will be working with the Semiconductor Physics (SP) group at Cavendish Laboratory. My research focuses on nanostructures and their quantum behaviour at low temperatures. I’m particularly interested in electrical transport through these structures, and their interaction with electromagnetic radiation. Throughout my involvement with cutting-edge research, my primary goal has been to simply become a better scientist everyday. Cambridge, being a world-class institution, provides a stimulating environment to do precisely this. The faculty and facilities in the SP group would enable me to carry out sound physics research, and build a strong foundation for a successful scientific career. In the future I would like to continue working with low-dimensional systems, which are a storehouse of a variety of intriguing quantum phenomena. I hope to make a significant contribution to this area.

INTERESTS:
Photography, cinema, chess, cooking.

Mr Lu Gram*
Denmark

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Computer Science
Clare Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Oxford

Music, languages and mathematics all possess their own poetry so it would seem surprising to find a degree that touches upon all three, but the MPhil in CSTIT manages just that. Hence, having been equally fascinated by both musical, linguistic and mathematical pursuits since childhood, I fully look forward to studying the degree at Cambridge. Plus the occasional London rave, of course.

INTERESTS:
All music! (and I mean all: ranging from Bach to Ligeti, Miles Davis to Armstrong, Green Day to Rammstein to Timberlake to Drum’n’Bass). Seasoned pianist and uncannily sober raver.
Mr Duncan Hanson
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Astronomy
Queens’ College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of British Columbia

I am interested in the history of our Universe – its origins, evolution, and future. At Cambridge I hope to study the Universe in its infancy with the help of the Cosmic Microwave Background.

INTERESTS:
Kayaking, camping, volleyball, physics, Antarctica.

Miss Eva-Maria Hempe
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Regensburg
University of Erlangen
University of Cambridge
Ludwig-Maximilians Universität

After having worked extensively on nanomagnetism I am looking forward to my time in Cambridge and the challenge of shifting the focus of my research towards quantum optics. We aim to study optical properties and energy levels of systems which are promising candidates for so-called qubits, the building blocks for a novel kind of computer. This so-called quantum computer would enable complex calculations in biology, medicine, physics ... by dramatically cutting calculating times for certain problems. I am very grateful that the support of the Gates Trust allows me to spend three years in the international and intellectual atmosphere, which I so particularly valued during my first stay in Cambridge.

INTERESTS:
Travel, sports (rowing, modern pentathlon, football/soccer, swimming, running, cycling, skiing, rock climbing, scuba diving), outdoor activities (hiking, canoeing, canyoning), literature, art, music.

Mr Tyler Hester*
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Education
Christ’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Stanford University

My studies will focus on the political dimensions of education policy as it affects English language learners both in the United Kingdom and in the United States. I hope that my time at Cambridge enables me to develop a deeper understanding of the pressing social problems presented by and inextricably linked to education. Specifically, I am eager to develop the research abilities and critical capacities that are required to make a substantive contribution to the life prospects of today’s students.

INTERESTS:
Political philosophy, education reform, politics, friends and family, John Milton, community service, bike racing.

Miss Yan Huang
China

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Imperial College London

I am a new member of the Biological & Soft Systems group. My PhD research topic is focused on Liquid Crystalline Polymers. I have previously conducted some research on the rheology characteristic of Carbon Nanotubes-polymer composites which will be my secondary research activity. I have been volunteering for 4 years, which I would like to keep up while in Cambridge. I also enjoy teaching and it is my wish to one day utilize my knowledge to benefit the community by teaching and research.

INTERESTS:
Contemporary dance, drawing, cracking problems, teaching, travelling.
Mr Samir Khan  
India  
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Pharmacology  
Darwin College  
PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Aligarh Muslim University  
I am happy to write that the Gates Cambridge Trust is one of the best funding agencies for study at Cambridge. At Cambridge University, I am located at the Department of Pharmacology and am doing the structure to function analyses of intracellular proteins that participate in Calcium signalling.

INTERESTS:  
Sports, socialising and travelling.

Mr Claudio Köser  
Germany  
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Genetics  
Clare Hall  
PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
University of Cambridge  
My enthusiasm for science has manifested itself in numerous research placements both in industry and academia (Cambridge, MIT and Harvard Medical School). My project will be a direct continuation of this work, using the soil bacterium R. aetherivorans I24 for the study of enzymes in the synthesis of mycolic acids which are essential for the survival of the tuberculosis agent. This is a first step in a long term commitment in this field. While I am a scientist by training, I am sceptical about the perception of science as gold standard that is increasingly penetrating numerous aspects of our lives. As a result of that, I co-founded the Thinking Society together with a couple of enthusiastic friends. Each term we organise a lecture series, gathering speakers from both the sciences and humanities in order to create a platform of dialogue between the two, often separated disciplines, and the public – for concern for humanity itself must always form the main motivation for our endeavours.

INTERESTS:  
Argentine tango, jogging, reading.
Mr Eric Koskinen**
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Computer Science
Churchill College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Brown University
College of William and Mary

In 2001 I graduated from The College of William and Mary, with a double major in Computer Science and Physics. Eager to explore large-scale software engineering challenges, I accepted a job at Amazon.com, where I worked on The Internet Movie Database. IMDb afforded me the unique opportunity to build significant software systems, amidst a personal passion: movies. Intent on improving correctness in software engineering, I began my graduate studies at Brown University. After my first year I started an internship at Microsoft Research in Cambridge working on compiler optimization under the advisement of Tim Harris. While in Cambridge, I was exposed to a wealth of active research in formal methods and found a concrete direction for my dissertation. This fall, I will begin studies in the PhD program at Cambridge under the direction of Byron Cook and Matthew Parkinson. I will be developing techniques for verifying concurrent programs and building automatic software verification tools.

**INTERESTS:**
Computer Science, programming languages, formal methods, verification, concurrency.

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Miss Franziska Lautenschlaeger
Germany

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Physics
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Leipzig

Cambridge! What an opportunity to pass my PhD at this university, where so many great physicists have left their footprints. And since biotechnology, cancer, and stem cell research are present almost everywhere in Cambridge, this is a near perfect environment to study such an interdisciplinary field as biophysics. Therefore, I will investigate the mechanical properties of stem cells by stretching them with the help of laser light.

**INTERESTS:**
I love going climbing and hiking, playing my cello, singing and simply talking with other people. Last term I started to row for Clare (it’s fun!).

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Miss Rachel Leow
Malaysia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in History
St Catharine’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Warwick

Two impulses drive my study of history: the value of truth, and the social function of history. My specialization in Southeast Asian and in particular Malaysian history evolved from both impulses. I am interested in how history is used (or abused) in a region remaking itself after colonialism – a region in which national identity and historical (even historiographical) claims share a deeply complex relationship. My research focuses upon the roles of intellectuals in the public sphere in their specific historical contexts, but also, by implication, the place they might have in our modern world.

**INTERESTS:**
I like books, long walks, the idea of angels, collecting jokers, climbing trees, infinite libraries, art that breathes. I’m fond of peanut butter, and I take chocolate seriously.

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Mr Wei Lim
Malaysia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MBBChir in Clinical Studies
Gonville & Caius College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge

I feel privileged to be part of the Gates scholar community and will use the most of the opportunities here to learn as much as I can.

**INTERESTS:**
I enjoy traveling, playing the piano and hiking.
Mr Tao (Gavin) Liu  
China

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Materials Science  
Wolfson College

During my three years at Cambridge, I shall be working on fuel cells, a type of renewable clean energy. Fuel cells, with the aid of solar cells as the source energy for water electrolysis, offers us an ideal solution to the problem of energy crisis. However, noble metals like platinum that compose the electrocatalyst used in fuel cells have restrained its application to very limited aspects of life. To solve this problem, the emphasis of my research in the forthcoming years is to dig out certain efficient electrocatalysts made of base materials. I am grateful for the Gates Foundation’s offer of this prestigious scholarship and I feel privileged to be a part of the community. Being a good scientist requires a life-time’s work and through this life-time endeavor, I am confident that I can abate people’s reliance upon fossil fuels and make the world a better place.

**INTERESTS:**  
Basketball, table-tennis, mountain-climbing, music, cooking, memorizing.

Dr Alireza Moayyeri  
Iran

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Public Health and Primary Care  
Girton College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Cambridge  
Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Having completed my MPhil degree in Cambridge, I thoroughly enjoyed my academic and social life here. The research community in the department of Public Health and Primary Care is outstanding and affords lots of opportunities for the students. For my PhD, I will concentrate on the methods and strategies for risk assessment, particularly for osteoporotic fractures, but hopefully to develop models and procedures applicable to much broader aspects of diseases and public health problems.

**INTERESTS:**  
Sports (e.g. running, swimming, lifting, football), table football, snooker, hiking, travel, philosophical debates, Persian poetry, and Persian traditional music.

Ms Victoria Moeller  
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Physics  
Peterhouse

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Michigan State University

My PhD research is in the field of experimental high energy physics. I will be focusing on the phenomenological challenge of identifying and analyzing beyond the standard model events in ATLAS, one of the detectors at the Large Hadron Collider. I will also be using my time at Cambridge to develop experience in the working environment of one of the world’s largest international scientific collaborations. I am grateful to the Gates Foundation for this opportunity.

**INTERESTS:**  
Trekking, adventure travel and sports, environmental resource management and ecotourism, skydiving, hang gliding, paragliding, sand boarding (but not snowboarding), snorkeling (but not scuba diving), and, last but not least, dancing, especially swing and salsa.

Ms Ruth Mokgokong  
South Africa

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Pharmacology  
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Rhodes University  
Edinburgh University

My main research interests are in neuropharmacology. For my PhD, I will be investigating the pharmacology of the blood brain barrier (BBB). This membranous barrier protects the brain from potentially harmful exogenous substances but also serves to impede advantageous drug delivery to the brain. I will use multidisciplinary approaches in my investigations of the BBB in hope to provide further clarity on the pharmacological and biochemical mechanisms taking place in this region. Greater knowledge on the functioning of the BBB may have implications for drug delivery to the brain and in the pathology of certain CNS disorders. I believe my time spent at Cambridge will provide me with excellent training for my future career in medical research.

**INTERESTS:**  
Reading, films, music, theatre, art, travelling, community involvement.
2007

Miss Astrid Norén-Nilsson*
Sweden

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil & PhD in Development Studies
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
School of Oriental And African Studies, London
Uppsala University

I am starting a PhD in Politics that will be focussing on Khmer nationalism. Last year I completed an MPhil in Development Studies at Cambridge and I hold a BA in Politics & Southeast Asian Studies from SOAS. I have worked in Cambodia for a local NGO and for the Belgian Technical Cooperation, and as a political analyst on Indochina for a London company.

INTERESTS:
Literature, opera, art, and travelling.

Mr Timothy O’Connor
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Zoology
Peterhouse

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Brigham Young University

I look forward to attending the University of Cambridge, not only for the opportunity to work with knowledgeable scholars in my own field but also to be associated with Gates Scholars from different backgrounds and pursuits. Academically, I am interested in the evolutionary dynamic of protein-protein interactions as well as the gap between genotype and phenotype. At Cambridge I want to focus on the interaction between virus envelope proteins and primate cell-surface proteins with the hope that an evolutionary perspective can elucidate the important problem of disease. I plan on being a research professor—and a PhD from Cambridge along with the added blessing of being a Gates Scholar will help me fulfill that dream.

INTERESTS:
Bioinformatics, molecular evolution, virology, machine learning, Spanish language and culture, religion, being out doors, playing with my daughter, dating my wife.

Mr Jonathan Ong
Philippines

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social and Political Science
Corpus Christi College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
London School of Economics
Ateneo de Manila

Born in Manila, Jonathan grew up with an early awareness of his ‘hybridity.’ With a Chinese father and a Filipina-Spanish-American mother, he was often confused in family gatherings and especially in rituals of dining and worship. These early experiences of in-betweeness would serve him well later on as an academic interested in diaspora and postcoloniality. But his passion for media and popular culture began in university. And he would go on to work at top media companies in the Philippines, including McCann-Erickson and GMA Network, where he became the youngest manager of the top TV station. In 2006 he decided to take his master’s at the LSE. For his dissertation, he analyzed how Filipino migrants construct their identity in the media rituals of news watching and karaoke. He is extremely excited to continue his academic career at Cambridge, where he aims to explore the condition of cosmopolitanism in the diaspora. As you can see, he really takes hybridity to heart.

INTERESTS:
Mr Antoine Panaioti
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Oriental Studies
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
McGill University

Research in the fields of Indian intellectual history and of European indology constitute essential steps towards the development of an adequate framework for the pursuit of comparative philosophy. This is what I plan to engage in over the course of my PhD at the University of Cambridge. After a BA focusing primarily on Western Philosophy and an MPhil devoted to philology and the study of classical Indian philosophy, I now intend to work on the west’s encounter with eastern thought over the course of the 19th century, most notably through the work of Arthur Schopenhauer and Friedrich Nietzsche. The study of how Indian and western thought have already coalesced (albeit incompletely and assymmetrically) in the work of certain seminal thinkers will help set the stage for further comparative work.

INTERESTS:
Languages (especially Sanskrit), philosophy (East and West), (intellectual) history, music, bicycle riding, conversation/debate, laughing.

Miss Maria Pawlowska
Poland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Earth Sciences
Clare College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Bristol

I have come to Cambridge with the rather ambitious aim of uncovering the mysteries of the earliest animals. By looking at some of the oldest rock formations still present at the Earth’s surface I hope to find out about some of our earliest ancestors.

Understanding the earliest biosphere is the key to answering some very important questions about life on our planet.

INTERESTS:
I have always loved traveling to wild and exotic places and because there is less and less of them left I have a fervent interest in conservation. I also enjoy reading (my cheapest way of getting places even if it’s only in my imagination). My favorite sports are definitely skiing in Italy and sailing in the Polish Lake District. I’m also quite keen on gender studies.

Miss Mateja Peter
Slovenia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in International Studies
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University of Ljubljana

I am delighted to have the opportunity to pursue my doctoral degree in International Studies at Cambridge. My research focuses on the role played by the civil administration in the post-conflict reconstruction and management of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through it I will combine post-conflict studies and theories of international norms, two fields largely separate in the existing literature. I am interested in pursuing a career in academia, but I hope also to find a means of applying my knowledge in practice to post-conflict management.

INTERESTS:
Travelling, foreign languages, debate, modern art, old movies, photography.

Mrs Geneva Peterson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemistry
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Texas Tech University

During my time at Cambridge I will be working in the area of supramolecular chemistry – a modern branch of chemistry which seeks to develop high-order, functional molecular architectures. I hope to make contributions to future technologies based on complex “soft” materials through the design, synthesis, and study of functional supramolecules.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy nature and wildlife observation – I’m enchanted to have a doe visiting my backyard! Having played some polo during my undergraduate years, I would like to get involved with the polo club at Cambridge. I find few things more relaxing than snuggling down with a cup of tea or a beer and writing long letters to my family and friends. I especially look forward to travelling with my husband during my PhD, especially to Ireland and the Alps.
Miss Srilakshmi Raj
United States
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Medical Genetics
Gonville and Caius College
PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Oxford

Originally from Lexington, MA, I completed my BA in Human Sciences at the University of Oxford in 2007. I am doing a PhD in Medical Genetics in the lab of Professor John Todd. My work involves investigating the genetic mechanisms underlying type 1 diabetes, and attempting to correlate type 1 diabetes genes with expression and phenotype.

INTERESTS:
In Cambridge, I am involved in the Cambridge Biological Society, serve as student rep for my department, and also serve as alumni officer on the Gates Scholars Council, among other activities. I also love to spend time with friends and family, cook/bake, eat, read, travel, take long walks, and meet new people.

Miss Nandhini Ponnumswamy
India
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
BA (affiliated) in Natural Sciences
St John's College
PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
St Stephen's College, 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 fathom 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, favourite being Indian music. I like playing volleyball, cycling, trekking and exploring new places. I also love to volunteer for social service activities.

Mr Oleksand Poplawsky
Ukraine
COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
Certificate of Advanced Study in Mathematics
Fitzwilliam College
PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Kyiv
University of Utrecht

In Cambridge, I will switch from my current interest in the theory of quantum Hall effect to the computational approach to biology-related problems like protein folding. I think this is a problem, solution of which will be very important for treatment of some diseases. In future, I plan to continue working in academia and deepen my knowledge of theoretical physics.

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 Ian Ralby**  
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil & PhD in International Relations  
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
College of William and Mary  
University of Maryland

In 2001, while participating in Sierra Leone’s post-war reconciliation efforts, I realized I wanted to dedicate my career to resolving international conflicts and assisting states in post-conflict transition. Since then, I have studied for a master’s in intercultural communication and a juris doctor in which I focused on international law. In 2005, I worked for the Iraqi High Tribunal, providing legal support and advice for the Iraqi judges as they prepared to try Saddam Hussein. After two years of practicing maritime and international law at a large law firm, the Gates Scholarship allowed me to begin integrating my prior academic and professional experiences by studying international relations at Cambridge. Having completed the M Phil, I look forward to continuing to examine the dynamics of conflicts and post-conflict matters by reading for a PhD. I intend to devote the remainder of my career to public service.

**INTERESTS:**  
People (who are both interesting and interested); languages (though mine are in bad shape after five years dedicated to the study and practice of law); good food (from anywhere in the world); traveling (and not just to the nicer places on Earth); sports (both playing and watching); and mysticism (regardless of tradition).

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**Mr Umang Rawat**  
India

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
BA (affiliated) in Economics  
St Edmund’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
St Stephen’s College, 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 would 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.

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**Miss Janine (Alix) Rogers**  
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil & PhD in History and Philosophy of Science  
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Pennsylvania

I just graduated from UPenn with a double majoring in Health and Societies, with a concentration in bioethics, and Philosophy and Science. I have been passionate about bioethics since I was eleven (remember Dolly the Sheep?). This interest has evolved into an interest in bioethics, public policy and the law. At Cambridge I have pursued a Masters in History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine with a focus in Modern Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. I intend to go on to pursue a JD and PhD in order to fulfill my goal of becoming a law professor at an institution, allowing me to publish, teach and influence legal and policy decisions related to bioethics.

**INTERESTS:**  
Horseback riding (I want to take up polo at Cambridge), reading classical novels, traveling to far flung places, making ice cream (toblerone is my favorite), lobsters and learning to ride a bike while at Cambridge.
Ms Anna Guðný Sigurðardóttir
Iceland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biochemistry
Downing College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Iceland

I want to acquire as much experience as I can in my PhD program, experiences that I can take back home to Iceland with me and enrich the Icelandic research community. In the future I see myself as a researcher. I have been exploring structural biology by using site-directed mutagenesis and “traditional” protein chemistry methods at the University of Iceland, now I want to take a different approach and broaden my horizon. At Cambridge I will be working on protein X-ray crystallography.

INTERESTS:
Books, music, travel, exercise, experimentation in cooking, tv, spending time with my friends and Icelandic horses.

Mr Anilkumar Sorathiya
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Manchester
Sardar Patel University

I majored in Computer Science at Manchester University. I work on Computational Science: mathematical modeling of biological systems using dynamical system. I am trying to understand dynamics of biological system specially spreading of HIV. Understanding of model behaviour could improve our understanding of the mechanism of disease, at least in some limited context. The creation of models has been essential in many important advances in biology. The power of modern computers and theoretical methods designed to interrogate complex systems so we can aid our understanding of disease. I must say that the support from the Gates Foundation is splendid.

INTERESTS:
I am interested in playing cricket, hiking, listening music and cinema.

Ms Raliza Stoyanova
South Africa

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biology
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Witwatersrand
University of Toronto

I will be pursuing a PhD at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit. In addition to behavioural studies, I will be using a variety of neuroimaging methods in an effort to understand how emotion influences cognitive functions such as attention and memory. My particular interest is in establishing whether broadly ‘negative’ emotions such as fear and disgust have different effects on cognition, and why, evolutionarily, that may be the case. I believe that the training I receive at Cambridge will be invaluable preparation for remaining in academia and, hopefully, running my own affective neuroscience laboratory one day. I am a nomad of note, having lived one third of my life in Europe, one third in Africa and one third in North America (looks like I’m starting the cycle all over again!).

INTERESTS:
When I’m not packing up and moving house, I love travelling off the beaten track, attempting to take poignant photographs and enjoying good wine and great food in the company of friends.

Miss Jillian Sullivan
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Developmental Psychiatry
Girton College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Royal Holloway, University of London

I first became interested in the mystery of autism while researching my undergraduate dissertation at Royal Holloway and decided to apply for a PhD to answer some of the questions that my dissertation raised after a year of work experience in a London for developmental disorders.

INTERESTS:
I was born in the USA (Seattle), grew up mainly in Colorado, and moved to England with my family when I was 15.
Mr Michael Swanwick
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Electrical Engineering
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Northeastern University

My Electrical Engineering PhD will focus on tactile feedback devices for ‘smart surface’ applications. Utilizing the piezoelectric nature of Zinc Oxide nanowires, a surface can both sense and give feedback to touch. My research will focus on the fabrication of the devices and the human factors between different types of interactions and the surfaces. The applications for such devices range widely from electronic Braille to heart monitors to dynamic mobile phone interfaces. My 2nd year PhD will be spent under Prof. Akinwande at MIT (US) as a visiting student. My research will be on the same topic but the focus will be on building the devices on flexible substrates.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy the outdoors including hiking, cycling, ultimate Frisbee, and skiing. During this past year, I have started running again with a goal to run a marathon. I also row for my college, St. Edmund’s. I enjoy teaching and supervise 2nd year Engineering Mechanics for Sidney Sussex College.

Miss Tamara Tajsic
Serbia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Medicine
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Belgrade

As a medical student and even later, while working as a physician, I became very frustrated by the fact that by using the current medical knowledge we’re still not able to help our patients as much as we want to. I would be extremely happy if, by doing research, I managed to contribute to the understanding of mechanisms underlying certain diseases.

INTERESTS:
Travelling (backpacking), running, cycling, cooking, chocolate, learning foreign languages.

Mr Daisuke Takagi
Japan

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Applied Mathematics
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

My work applies mathematics to describe the motion of fluids and solids in nature. I am currently interested in studying the flow of granular materials, which include snow avalanches, sand storms and land slides. Having completed two summer projects on lava flows and all parts of the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos, I hope to take advantage of the excellent facilities in Cambridge and acquire further skills and knowledge in the field of applied mathematics. During my three years of research, I intend to run novel experiments in the laboratory and develop accurate mathematical models that can be used to better understand the environment. It is my ambition to reduce the risks of natural hazards on this planet by extending the frontiers of science.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy rowing, skiing, traveling and eating. Playing tennis, squash, football and the flute are my favourite activities too.

Mr Andrew Tanentzap
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Plant Sciences
Gonville and Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
York University
University of Waterloo

At Cambridge, I plan to build on my previous MSc research and integrate vertebrate herbivory into models describing how forests function. Such models, which have typically overlooked the profound impacts of large mammalian herbivores on their environments, can be extended beyond their standard conservation applications to predicting how forests may sequester carbon to limit climate warming. Field sites in the UK, New Zealand, and Canada and collaborations with a diverse range of stakeholders will broaden the scope of this research, with a goal of effectively communicating science-based ecosystem management to a diverse range of non-science communities. I hope to take a leading academic role in such interdisciplinary partnerships upon return to Canada.

INTERESTS:
Botany, hiking up anything which resembles a mountain, baseball, soccer, traveling.
Ms Rebecca Voorhees
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Molecular Biology
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Yale University

My work at Cambridge will focus on using x-ray crystallography to study the ribosome, a macromolecule responsible for synthesizing proteins in all cells across biology. During my last year as an undergraduate I synthesized a novel inhibitor that I hope to co-crystallize with the full ribosome. By determining the structure of this enzyme-inhibitor complex, I hope to address fundamental questions about how the ribosome catalyzes protein synthesis on a molecular level. The Gates Scholarship has given me the incredible opportunity to pursue this collaborative research at Cambridge with some of the world’s experts in the field.

**INTERESTS:**
Anything having to do with water (swimming, sailing, water polo etc.), art, music, and travel.

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Mr Adrien Vigier
France

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Economics
Queens’ College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge

My research interests mostly relate to microeconomic theory. I study in particular how, in a strategic context, agents shape the networks they belong to.

**INTERESTS:**
Languages, physics, football, travels.

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Miss Tian Wei
China

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Engineering
Wolfson College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Tsinghua University

My research is on Manufacturing and Management. Research and projects are two main parts of my study in Cambridge.

**INTERESTS:**
I think I am good at breast stroke, backstroke and crawl stroke but can only swim less than 20 meters in butterfly stroke. I like to read Chinese history books and watch all kinds of TV play. And I believe that nearly everyone likes eating and sleeping. Also, I have a dream that if I have plenty of time and money I would like to take a tour all around the world, including US, Europe and Australia.

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Miss Britta Trappmann
Germany

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Chemistry
Gonville and Caius College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Dortmund

I am studying chemistry because I want to do research and discover new things to improve the lives of the community. My ambition is to lead a University research group. Pursuing a PhD course in Cambridge means working in an environment of excellence and allows me to do research in an international and interdisciplinary team. Being a Gates Scholar helps me to meet people from around the world with different academic specialisations and will therefore broaden my horizons beyond my own field.

**INTERESTS:**
Reading, theatre, classical music, travelling.

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Mr Adrien Vigier
France

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Economics
Queens’ College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge

My research interests mostly relate to microeconomic theory. I study in particular how, in a strategic context, agents shape the networks they belong to.

**INTERESTS:**
Languages, physics, football, travels.
Ms Ariane Welch
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in English
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Sydney

I completed my BA studies in 2005 at Sydney University, with Honours in English and Semiotics. While studying Systemic Functional Grammar, I was involved in research grant projects using Multi-Modal Discourse Analysis to analyse facial affect and expression in children’s literature, and as a research assistant studying the semiotics of embodiment in public political discourse. I work particularly in the field of stylistics, which is the use of linguistics in literary analysis. My PhD examines three modalities of social construal and research: modernist poetry, functionalist and materialist linguistics and linguistic theory, and marxist and critical theory. I intend to analyse the poetry of Louis Zukofsky, the linguistic theories of Volosinov and Hjelmslev, and the marxian and critical theories of Lukacs and Jameson. After my PhD, I’d like to enter the academy to teach and research in this area.

INTERESTS:
Politics and activism in general, and especially refugee and asylum seeker advocacy, wheel-thrown studio pottery, cooking, playing pool, attending as many plays in London as possible, avoiding riding a bike while residing in Cambridge.

Mr Nabil Wilf
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biochemistry
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Georgia Institute of Technology

Prior to Cambridge, I spent a year and a half living in the Middle East where I was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study the values of Kuwaiti youth to women’s rights. This time was a valuable period of introspection and observation wherein my understanding of the world and the civilizing forces within it increased. But as I venture back to university life at Cambridge, I return to my other half interested in genetic regulatory networks in bacteria. Specifically, my research will focus on quorem sensing or bacterial communication. Bacteria, while the simplest of organisms, possess a complexity of organization and a diversity of processes that has the potential to be increasingly manipulated for human uses as cellular factories. I endeavor to combine my various interests and return one day to the Middle East to aid in its progress and development driven by the spirit of service inculcated by the Baha’i Faith and its counsel to carry forward an ever-advancing civilization.

INTERESTS:
Baha’i Faith, Islam, Arabic, spirituality, all things pertaining to the Middle East, hiking, scuba diving, musing, I have a passion for travelling and learning about new cultures.

Mr Andrew Woods
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Politics
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Harvard University

My work focuses on the role of culture and media, broadly defined, in human rights advocacy. I’m also interested in information warfare, and the ways in which technology is changing international affairs.

INTERESTS:
Non-state actors, wireless movements, and micro machines.
Mr Byung Yoon
South Korea

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience
Trinity College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

My name is Byung Chul (Jason) Yoon, and I am originally from South Korea. I came to the United States in 1997 and went to Johns Hopkins University for undergraduate studies. After graduation, I decided to stay in Baltimore to pursue a medical degree at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Since starting college, I have been interested in neuroscience. I majored in neuroscience and did neuroscience research projects as an undergraduate and as a medical student. At Cambridge, I am pursuing a PhD in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience. I am particularly interested in studying the signaling process involved in axonal regeneration. Ultimately, I hope to apply the knowledge gained from basic research in clinical settings.

**INTERESTS:**
Violin, kumdo, photography and painting.

Mr Eviatar Yemini
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Molecular Biology
Emmanuel College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of California (San Diego)

I am continuing my UCSD Neurobiology PhD here at Cambridge. We are concerned with how neural codes translate into behavior. Such questions should guide us in understanding how brains work and hopefully, one day, aid in solving the mystery of consciousness. Our model organism is C. elegans, a tiny, harmless nematode that lives in the soil – and within Petri dishes in our lab. I am building a system to record long videos of worm experiments, automatically extract and analyze behavior from the video, then populate a large searchable database with these experimental results. Thereafter, we hope to marry this database with concurrent imaging of neurons defining the expressed behavior. Separately, I am examining paralyzed worms with the remarkable ability to recover and move. We hope that uncovering their recovery mechanism might yield treatments for related human disorders.

**INTERESTS:**
I love skiing (more than anything!), rock climbing, dancing (ballroom/dancesport and jazz), drawing & sculpting, trying new restaurants, and reading (Milan Kundera and Gabriel Garcia Marquez are my favorite authors).

Mr Surgeon Xolo
South Africa

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil & PhD in Education
Homerton College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
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’ knowledgeability in terms of the opportunities it offers for the South African students to learn mathematics. My assumption is that this knowledgeability will be reflected in the kind of the ‘mathematical work’ done by the teachers as they go about their teaching.

**INTERESTS:**
My interests include travelling the world, reading, creative writing and engaging in philosophical issues. More than everything, I enjoy moments of silence and critical reflection on how my own development might impact on the development of my people—the community within which I live.
Miss Emily Alden
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in History and Philosophy of Science
Trinity Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Iowa

Though I was born in Vancouver, Canada, I spent most of my childhood moving back and forth across the Mississippi River in the Quad Cities region, finally moving to Iowa City to attend the University of Iowa. I recently finished degrees in Biochemistry and Interdepartmental Studies: Comprehensive Cancer Studies with a minor in history. As an undergraduate I was involved in volunteer service with community and student organizations and ran on the cross country and track teams. I also conducted research in the fields of X-ray crystallography, molecular epidemiology, neonatal transfusion medicine, and the history of medicine. At Cambridge, I will pursue an MPhil in the History and Philosophy of Science. Afterwards I will enter the MD/PhD program at the University of Pennsylvania and plan to combine my interests in the history of medicine and the practice of medicine. Eventually I hope to enter medical school administration and continue to forge paths between medicine and the humanities.

**INTERESTS:**
Running (Cambridge Hare and Hounds), horseback riding, polo, cycling, cooking, fashion, the Pacific Northwest, reading, and independent films.

Mr Marcelo Alvisio
Argentina

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
CASM in Pure Mathematics
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

CARMA represents an elementary model of random processes with far-reaching applications from control theory to computational biochemistry. As an undergraduate, I studied the multivariate extension of the model and its probabilistic properties. I also simulated concrete examples and analyzed them in detail. At Cambridge, I am pursuing further training in probability, statistics, and stochastic calculus. I am interested in applications to financial mathematics, which will give me a deeper insight on the inner workings of world economies. Once I complete my PhD, I plan to stay in academia and teach students. I hope to make valuable contributions in my field and to promote communication and exchange across universities. I’m very thankful to the support of the Gates Cambridge Trust, without which I would not have had the opportunity of studying in Cambridge and meeting such an motivated and accomplished network of scholars.

**INTERESTS:**
Passionate about maths in general; economics; computer programming; linguistics and learning new languages (or trying to keep up with the six I have learned); visual arts, being myself a painter at heart, and history of art, now interested in 20th century vanguards; museums of all kinds; plays, ballets, operas, and musicals; old films and German cinema; the classics and 19th century English novels; distance running; figure skating… spending time with my family.

Mr Abdullahi Aminu
Nigeria

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Advanced Chemical Engineering
Hughes Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Lagos

Graduated from University of Lagos in 2007 with BSc honours in Chemical Engineering, I intend to explore the field more by specializing in the area of efficient provision of sustainable energy. My career goal is to hold a PhD in Chemical Engineering, have some industrial experiences and share the knowledge by engaging in research and teaching either in the academic or research institutes. Also, I hope to be a major pioneer of great manufacturing and consultancy outlets in the future. It is a privilege being in the Gates Cambridge community, it will be a nice stepping stone to making my dreams come true. Thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

**INTERESTS:**
Mr Joshua Batson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
CASM in Pure Mathematics
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University

I was born and raised in California’s Silicon Valley, and studied mathematics at Yale University. I enjoy using math to solve problems, both practical and theoretical. In internships, I have analyzed internet activity at Advertising.com and modeled interest rate volatility at a hedge fund. I recently spoke on my work at a seminar New York and a conference in San Diego, and submitted a paper to the Journal of Number Theory. In addition to being elected to Phi Beta Kappa, I was awarded six prizes at Yale: five for mathematics and one for literary criticism. Having seen the value and beauty of mathematics in my own life, I want to share it with others. To that end, I tutored students in high school and college and founded the Yale Undergraduate Math Society. At Cambridge, I will undertake Part III of the Mathematical Tripos en route to a doctorate. As a professor, I plan to work to improve the way universities teach undergraduate mathematics.

INTERESTS:
In my free time, I enjoy making music – I began eleven years ago with classical trumpet, picked up jazz in high school, got hooked on klezmer at Yale, and I hope to continue playing all three at Cambridge.

Miss Marianne Bauer
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Chemistry
Selwyn College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
St Andrews University

Having recently graduated with a BSc in Chemistry and Mathematics from St Andrews University, I am now looking forward to my MPhil in Theoretical Chemistry. It is an area in which Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science converge, and I find that research in this area is challenging, exciting and worthwhile: my project will involve research concerning the kinetics of biomolecules which could eventually facilitate drug development for diseases such as Alzheimer’s. I am extremely grateful to the Trusts for having given me the chance to pursue this project: I expect this year in Cambridge to give me valuable insights both on an academic as well as personal level, which will prepare me not only for my PhD but also for my aspired career as an academic.

INTERESTS:
Reading, languages, hiking, singing, cooking (and eating), and long conversations with friends.

Miss Sytske Besemer
Netherlands

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Criminology
Jesus College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Free University, Amsterdam
Leiden University

I graduated with distinction in both psychology and criminology at Leiden University and VU University Amsterdam. Currently I am working at the VU, where I study the well-being of imprisoned mothers’ children. For my PhD I want to study mechanisms explaining the intergenerational transmission of aggression. By doing this I hope to contribute to knowledge about the development of aggression, which can help to design interventions against aggression. In the future I want to continue doing research, but I would also like to use my knowledge in a way more closely connected to society, perhaps as a policy developer. It would be great if I could combine research and practice.

INTERESTS:
One way of relaxing for me is doing sports! I love rowing, racecycling, skiing, survivalling and other active things. I also like to travel, visit museums, cities and walk on the beach or in the forest. Another passion is my volunteering work for Kico Foundation in the Netherlands, where I organise holidays for children who desperately need a break. These children have problematic home situations, ADHD, autistic disorders or little money to do something nice. It is a great experience to create an environment where they can simply be children. Furthermore, I love to meet my friends and family, cook for them, watch films, etcetera! So, my life is mostly quite busy...
Mr Joseph Bonneau
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Computer Science
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Stanford University

I am interested in the relationship between technology and security, specifically how we use technology to enforce “the rules” of society and protect people’s rights. There exists a major disconnect between the engineers and mathematicians developing new security mechanisms, and the politicians and lawyers arguing over how they should be used. This is why I am using the Gates Scholarship to complete a PhD at Cambridge’s Computer Laboratory. I hope to research both technical questions in cryptography and security, and also policy questions. The Security Group has made quite a name for itself in both areas.

INTERESTS:
Sports, especially American football, travel, bicycle touring, backpacking, cooking, science fiction, classic video games.

Mr Apoorva Bhandari
India

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

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 understanding brain function will have a big impact on the way we manage ourselves and those around us and the way we educate children. At Cambridge, I intend to pursue a PhD studying the mechanisms of attention and cognitive control in humans. In the future, I wish to establish an independent 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 community and fulfill the promise that neuroscience holds for education.

INTERESTS:
I’m interested in children’s minds, SLR photography, street food, hindi cinema and the history of (among other things) Islam, the Indus Valley Civilization and the Enlightenment.

Miss Anna Bonnell-Freidin
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Classics
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Harvard University

A commitment to Classical studies shaped my activities as an undergraduate and has given me an abiding interest in the study of codes of conduct, both personal and civic. Throughout the ancient world, people devised, enforced, contested, and reinvented these codes that still remain influential after two millennia. Particularly during the upheaval of the late Republic, figures such as Brutus or Cato came to embody a certain set of values, both for their contemporaries and generations to come. While pursuing an MPhil in Classics, I hope to focus on the legacy of such individuals and to understand their role in shaping our own notions of the codes underlying Roman Republicanism.

INTERESTS:
Besides the Classics, my other great love is chamber music. I began cello at the age of eight in my hometown, Berkeley, California, participated in many ensembles in college, and plan to continue at Cambridge. Latin literature of the Late Republic and Early Principate, Roman moralizing iconographic representations and popular philosophy, Roman reception of Greek philosophy, ethics, and aesthetics, modern Classical reception, questions of cultural patrimony and antiquities law.
Dr Alice Chang  
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
MPhil in Public Health  
Magdalene College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
James Cook University, Brisbane

I hail from Queensland, Australia – the land of sunshine, surfing, koalas, possums, kangaroos and the great barrier reef. Having trained as a doctor in Australia, I am passionate about indigenous health and public health issues in Australia. I love combining travelling with medical humanitarian work and have worked extensively in India, Africa, Indonesia, and South East Asia. I would like to combine my clinical work with a background in public health in order to establish sustainable health programs both within Australia and overseas in the future. I want this year in Cambridge to be a year of inspirations – by both my brilliant peers and the academics.

Mr Yuyin (Allen) Chen  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
MPhil in Chemistry  
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Harvard University

I am working in Prof. David Klenerman’s lab studying mechanisms of protein aggregation with a single molecule biophysics technique developed in the lab; these studies have implications for neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s. After the MPhil, I will do an MD-PhD at Harvard in preparation for a career as a physician-scientist.

Miss Shannon Chiu  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
MSc in Experimental Psychology  
Emmanuel College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Williams College

While at Cambridge, I plan to complete an MSc in Experimental Psychology. My goal is to compare language production and comprehension – in particular, differential tip-of-the-tongue phenomena – in healthy individuals with that of patients with semantic dementia or brain lesions in associated language centers. Close examination of language as a cognitive and neural system will not only contribute to a better understanding of neurodegenerative diseases’ unique neurolinguistic profiles, but also disparate adaptive strategies in healthy versus disease states. I recently completed my bachelor’s degree in biology, with a concentration in neuroscience, at Williams College. As an aspiring physician-scientist, I see myself playing a role in the vast effort in combating degenerative brain disorders.

INTERESTS:

I believe in a balanced life with lots of fun. I enjoy singing in the choir and rowing while at Cambridge. On the weekend you will find me trawling through the antique markets, art galleries and bookshops, or riding around on my bike Matilda!

INTERESTS:

This year I hope to get involved with club sports, standup comedy, and student publications.

INTERESTS:

I am an avid traveler, skier and pianist, as well as a creative enthusiast of photography and studio art.
Mr Joseph Clair  
United States  

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
MPhil in Divinity  
Clare College  

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Fordham University  
Duke University  
Wheaton College  

My interest in theology began in high school and college while working as a youth director and student chaplain. Those experiences led me to attend Duke Divinity School after graduating from Wheaton College in 2002. At Duke, the intersection between religion, environment, economy, and politics became clearer to me. I participated on a publication panel at the 8th World Wilderness Congress in Anchorage, AK, examining this intersection for sustainable human communities. After finishing my MTS at Duke I earned another master’s degree in philosophy at Fordham. For my MPhil research in Divinity at Cambridge I will work on Augustine’s ‘City of God’ while focusing on the contemporary issue of political secularization. Cambridge affords me an unparalleled interdisciplinary opportunity and the Gates community’s emphasis on knowledge in service of an ‘international common good’ will no doubt challenge my own thinking and expand my sense of vocational horizon between faith and public life.  

INTERESTS:  
Fly fishing, playing guitar, surfing, creative writing, and cooking with my wife.

Mr Edward Chouchani  
Canada  

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Biological Science  
King’s College  

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Carleton University  

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.

Miss Lindsay Chura  
United States  

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Psychiatry  
Trinity College  

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Mount Holyoke College  

Over the past 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. I have an interest in the study of bioethics in the context of policy 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.  

INTERESTS:  
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.
Mr Benjamin Clemenzi-Allen  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil in American Literature  
Corpus Christi College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Massachusetts (Amherst)  

Throughout my undergraduate education, my research has focused mainly on experimental 20th-century poetry of the American and Russian traditions. Recently I have examined Language Poetry and Russian Formalism, Ezra Pound and structuralism, and Vladimir Mayakovsky’s Bolshevik Futurism. In the American MPhil program I will explore how two modernist American writers’ formal innovations were influenced by the British and European cultures they immigrated to, while focusing on their contrary but related approaches to poetic language. This study will compare Ezra Pound’s vorticism and “The Cantos” with Gertrude Stein’s attention to the autonomous value of the word in “Tender Buttons.” My career goals are to enter academia and continue to work to support cross-cultural academic dialogue.  

**INTERESTS:**  
In addition to my studies, I have tutored and mentored students, played a key role in the research and development of a tutoring center, presented at conferences, volunteered at a local prison, and worked as a research assistant.

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Mr Joshua Cook  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil in Medical Sciences (Clinical Biochemistry)  
Clare College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Pennsylvania  

My work in the IMS Metabolic Research Laboratories serves to elucidate the heretofore unknown link between faulty insulin signaling and cell stress in adipose tissue that can lead to type 2 diabetes mellitus. Increased understanding of this pathway may reveal potent targets for rational drug design or gene therapy. I am extremely excited indeed to be able to study within the uniquely translational setting of the Institute of Metabolic Science. Moreover, I look forward to growing both as a scientist and a non-scientist along with my fellow scholars at this legendary university.  

**INTERESTS:**  
In addition to my studies, I have tutored and mentored students, played a key role in the research and development of a tutoring center, presented at conferences, volunteered at a local prison, and worked as a research assistant.

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Mr Edward Davis  
United States  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil in Social Anthropological Analysis  
St John’s College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of California (Berkeley)  
New York University  

Born in Chicago, I grew up between inner-city and suburbia, gaining multiple lenses with which to view the world. At NYU’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study, I concentrated on Africana Studies, Romance Languages, International Relations and education. After studying a year in France, I volunteered for Afropop World Music and at Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. Teaching in NY City, Paris and the Brazilian Amazon followed. At UC Berkeley, I studied Lingala and the Congolese Diaspora in Belgium, then moved to Congo as Elementary Coordinator at the American School, Kinshasa. In Africa, the confrontation between modernity and indigeneity can be self-effacing. Pursuing MPhil/PhD degrees in Social Anthropology at Cambridge will allow me to document the discourses of Central African ethnic groups separated by geopolitical boundaries, colonial languages and war. After Cambridge, I will become a university professor while actively conducting research in developing countries.  

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Mr Mathieu Desruisseaux  
Canada  

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil in Innovation, Strategy & Organisation  
King’s College  

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Harvard University  

I grew up in Quebec and grew wiser in New Mexico, before studying comparative politics in the other Cambridge and working in China. At the Judge Business School, I zoom in on social networks within organizations and explore implications for social software (Web 2.0) in the enterprise. After Cambridge I hope to help governments make innovative use of Internet technologies to improve politics and public administration.  

**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.
Mr William Eucker
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Technology Policy
Peterhouse

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
United States Naval Academy
George Washington High School

Working in different aspects of the defense enterprise: from operating a sonar system on a nuclear submarine, to engineering and buying a new sensor for the fleet, to researching atmospheric chemistry at a U.S. National Laboratory; I have lived the technological sophistication of national security. I am at Cambridge to better understand how to foster and harness scientific innovation—in a global economy—to further national and international security. After my studies, I will serve as an officer in the U.S. Submarine Force.

INTERESTS:
Playing squash, skiing, running, swimming, practicing my yoga, traveling, cooking, eating, picking berries, making and savoring akvavit, collecting coins.

Mr Michael Duyzend
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Computational Biology
Girton College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Carleton College

I will pursue an MPhil in Computational Biology in preparation for the MD-PhD program at the University of Washington in Seattle, USA, which I will begin next year. At Carleton, I majored in math and chemistry and became interested in combining these through a career in academic medicine. While conducting research in organic synthesis at Carleton and in transcriptional regulation at Harvard, I realized that in this age, important discoveries are more easily accessible to those who can incorporate computational approaches. I have seen the fruitful marriage of biomedicine and the quantitative sciences in the laboratory, in literature, and in my work as a math and writing tutor. I am a strong believer in interdisciplinary and international collaborations, and wish to conduct research that would benefit those underserved in our world. In particular, I aim to use computational and chemical approaches to aid the development of affordable treatments for neglected and other diseases.

INTERESTS:
My academic interests include genetics and genomics; transcriptional regulation; organic synthesis; chemical, computational, systems, and synthetic biology; academic medicine; medical research; measure theory; Markov chains; probability; Latin American history; and the works of R.W. Emerson. My other interests include hiking; skiing; gardening; fly-fishing; backpacking; traveling; Dutch and Spanish languages; Chilean Patagonia; the music of J.S. Bach; Catholic liturgy; activities with Boy Scouts, Mensa, and Mortar Board; having coffee with friends; keeping my computer up-to-date; long walks; wine tasting; and good food.

Mr Alexandre Flavier*
France

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Technology Policy
Wolfson College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Ecole Normale Superieure de Paris, EMS ULM
Ecole Nationale Superieure des Mines de Paris
Universite Paris Diderot – Paris VII

In an increasingly globalised world driven by innovation and technological progress, the ability to combine a strong scientific background with an appreciation of the broader political and economic stakes will be more critical than ever. This programme at the Judge Business School will provide me with skills which are crucial for corporate strategies and government policies to cope with this rapidly evolving environment, enhance business performance and shape a sustainable development.

INTERESTS:
Sports (basketball, soccer, squash), classical and jazz music (play piano), travel.
Miss Molly Fox
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Biological Anthropology
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University

At Cambridge, I plan to study parent-offspring conflict, specifically the immunological conflict between mother and fetus. I am eager to begin investigating how maternal and fetal HLAs and leukocytes interact, and how adaptive mechanisms in mother and fetus have developed to maximize reproductive success in each individual. I graduated this spring from Yale, where I was honored with Distinction in both majors (Biological Anthropology and Theatre), and with the Stanley Wheeler Prize. At Yale, I was a Bates Fellow and a Perlroth Fellow, I worked at the Yale Autism Clinic, and I acted, directed, and wrote theatre. This summer, a musical I wrote was selected as Best Musical at the NY International Fringe Festival.

Mr Ronn Friedlander
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Engineering
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Rutgers University

I graduated from Rutgers University with a double major in Biomedical Engineering and Ecology. A native of Cranford, New Jersey, my wanderlust has led me to spend a year traveling the world and in so doing, witness a startling degree of poverty. I am now an active member of Engineers Without Borders, through which I have established a project to bring pure water to people in northern Thailand. As informed by my major in ecology, I believe that the world’s deteriorating environmental conditions disproportionately affect the poor. I intend to devote my career toward improving global health. I will spend my graduate studies creating a low cost, high precision lab-on-a-chip that can be used to detect disease in remote, resource-poor settings. At Cambridge, I will design biosensors that can be used in such platforms.

Mr Kenneth Fockele
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in European Literature
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Princeton University

In college, I came to study German almost accidentally, drawn by inspiring professors. There I found my intellectual home, but I tried to become part of a wider community as well. I played for the soccer club, joined a group of faculty and student runners, and volunteered in the town. I taught a writing class at the local arts council and directed a mentoring program that matched Princeton students with troubled local children. Thanks to a DAAD Fellowship for study in Berlin in 2007-2008, I was able to continue research I had done for my senior thesis. My research focused on representations of sexual love in medieval German courtly love poetry. I examined the literary techniques that poets used to handle this social and aesthetic taboo. At Cambridge I plan to deepen and broaden my study of medieval German literature. After pursuing an MPhil and a PhD in German literature, I hope to become a professor and continue to study and teach.
Mr Christopher Geissler  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in German  
Jesus College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
University of Cambridge  
Columbia University

I return to Cambridge after having completed my MPhil in MML in 2006–07. My thesis explored the constructions of German national identity in the ‘German Colonial Newspaper’ (Deutsche Kolonialzeitung) in the late 1880s, focusing especially on the humanitarian movement to end slavery in Africa. My work is informed not only by European studies, but also by my background in Middle East and Asian studies, the subject of my undergraduate work at Columbia University. Following a postgraduate year as a Bosch Fellow at the University of Leipzig and prior to my master’s studies, I worked for several years in New York in the health field. After completing my PhD, I hope to secure a teaching and research position. My dissertation will investigate narratives on slavery and anti-slavery movements in German texts from 1860 to 1914 and will lead, I hope, to further interdisciplinary work on European imperialism, nationalisms, and humanitarianism on the global scale.

Mr Jan Gaspers  
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in International Studies  
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
University of Cambridge  
University of Sussex  
University of Maastricht

Following undergraduate studies in the Netherlands and the UK, I initially joined the University of Cambridge’s Centre of International Studies in 2007 as an MPhil student in International Relations. Since the summer of 2008, I have continued my studies at the Centre as a PhD candidate in International Studies. My doctoral research examines the effects of the European integration process on the identities, behaviour and coordination of diplomats from EU member states within international organisations. My other research interests focus on the evolution of the European Security and Defence Policy, EU-NATO cooperation and transatlantic relations more generally. In the past, I have worked inter alia with the European Centre for Development Policy Management in Maastricht, the OSCE in Vienna, the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in Geneva. After my time in Cambridge I intend to pursue a career in policy-making.

INTERESTS:
Most of my passions are in the field of the arts. I have been playing the guitar for almost a decade and used to work for a theatre. I enjoy attending all kind of exhibitions and particularly those displaying Renaissance art. I love reading and have a particular interest in contemporary French literature. Apart from the arts, I am also a keen tennis and volleyball player and try to go swimming whenever my schedule permits it. Given my educational background and research interests, I also have a strong interest in current affairs and therefore like to read all sorts of newspapers and magazines from the German, English and French-speaking parts of the world.

Miss Talia Gershon  
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:  
PhD in Materials Science  
Clare College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

I just completed my BS in Materials Science and Engineering at MIT and am looking forward to starting my PhD at Cambridge (in the same field) this fall! I’ve been an advocate of renewable energy technologies for a while and am incredibly excited by the media attention they’ve recently received; I am especially impressed that energy issues have become such a central part of the 2008 US Presidential election and am eager to see what comes of all of this talk. My PhD research will hopefully be in organic photovoltaics (or polymer-based solar cells), which have promise in low-cost (albeit lower efficiency) solar applications. One of the things that excites me most about this upcoming fall is meeting all of you, fellow Gates Scholars! I’m really looking forward to getting to know you.
Miss Claudia Giambartolomei
Italy

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE: MPhil in Epidemiology
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES: George Washington University

For the past two years I worked with the Clinical Genetics Branch of the National Institute of Health. In the Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics. My responsibilities included assisting in the management of data collected from the eight ongoing clinical trials, in order to research new clues to the etiology and prevention of hereditary cancers. I also attended classes and followed seminars offered by the NIH. These experiences influenced my decision to pursue a career in epidemiology. I plan to focus my Master thesis on the molecular and genetic epidemiology of cancer. My hope is to continue research towards a PhD degree at the University of Cambridge, and continue my career within an academic environment.

INTERESTS: Lately, my major extracurricular activity has been martial arts training, which enhanced my focus, discipline, perseverance, self-confidence and self-respect.

Ms Girija Godbole
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE: MPhil in Environment, Society & Development
Fitzwilliam College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES: Pune University

I have done graduate and post-graduate degrees in botany and anthropology respectively. Following that I did a certificate course in environment education. For MPhil 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).

Dr Rajna Golubic
Croatia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE: MPhil in Public Health
Hughes Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES: Zagreb University

Throughout my studies I was actively involved in several research projects, international conferences, summer schools and student exchange programmes in European countries which made me aware of the diversity of social issues. Since there is no sufficient expertise in public health in Croatia, I would like to acquire a sound knowledge in that subject through MPhil in Public Health at Cambridge, which would enable me to contribute to the improvement of healthcare in Croatia and afterwards to pursue an international career in public health, acting on a global level. As a future specialist in occupational health who will, apart from clinical experience, have scientific background and sound knowledge in relevant areas of public health, I will strive to find a job within international organizations. I am very grateful to the Gates Cambridge Trust for their generous financial support of my MPhil study at the University of Cambridge.

INTERESTS: Public health, occupational medicine, health promotion, epidemiology; ballroom dancing, salsa, running, foreign languages, travelling.
Mr Tyler Goodspeed
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Economic & Social History
Emmanuel College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Harvard University

Born and raised in Exeter, New Hampshire, I only gained an identifiable interest in history and economics following the experience of working overseas. The opportunity sparked my curiosity into the process by which groups of people render economic decisions, an interest manifested in two broad areas of study – economic history and the history of economic thought. My recent research has involved studying the evolution of labor market patterns and trends over time and particularly the impact of changing international institutions on domestic labor markets. I have also studied, on a more theoretical level, the history of economic thought itself; how scholars and intellectuals theorized on the nature of the economy and the relation of production, commerce, and growth to law, custom, and government. I plan to continue these interdisciplinary studies at Cambridge in economic and social history. I hope ultimately to pursue an academic career at the university level.

**INTERESTS:**
An avid distance runner, I’ve set state and national junior bests in the marathon.

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Miss Anna Gordon
Australia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
LLM in Law
Jesus College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Australian National University

I will be specialising in international law and human rights as part of my LLM at Cambridge. My particular interest in international law and human rights stems from studies in these areas of law on exchange at the University of Vienna as part of my undergraduate degree and internships with the Red Cross (IFRC) in Geneva. More recently I have been working as the Legal Research Officer at the High Court of Australia and tutoring at the Australian National University.

**INTERESTS:**
Travel, reading, baking, history, hiking, running, sport in general, anything outdoors.

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Mr Philip Graff
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Physics
Queens’ College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

At Cambridge, my PhD in Physics will focus on Einstein’s theory of general relativity and its implications. I will be looking to study gravity waves and the cosmic microwave background. These fields have promise for yielding information about the earliest moments of our universe.

**INTERESTS:**
Baseball, American football, ultimate Frisbee, traveling.

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Mr Simon Gray
Canada

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Advanced Chemical Engineering
Pembroke College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

My interests in biology, chemistry, and engineering led me to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where I earned a bachelor of science in Chemical Engineering focused on Biochemical Engineering. At UMBC, I conducted research in the Leach Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Laboratory, where I worked to miniaturize cellular oxygen sensor technology to develop a nontoxic oxygen sensor for use in a 3D cell matrix. During the summer of 2007, I researched bioremediation of oil-contaminated soils of the Yellow River Delta at Ocean University of China through a NSF grant. At Cambridge I will pursue an MPhil in Advanced Chemical Engineering. After Cambridge, I plan to attend medical school and complete a combined MD/PhD program. While working as a physician-scientist, I hope to run a research laboratory where I will apply my engineering skills to medical and biomedical research.

**INTERESTS:**
My extracurricular interests include sailing, kitesurfing, swimming, scuba diving, playing the piano, and beekeeping.
Mr Andrew Gruen
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Modern Society & Global Transformations
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Northwestern University

At Cambridge I will combine my experience working in digital journalism with the study of culture and media in the modern world to solve the growing problem of information obesity. Working in journalism, I see first-hand that as humans increase their access to data they use less of it; we are encumbered by its mass. Under the weight of information, we also fragment audiences to provide information to specific individuals. It is my mission to solve this problem, not by creating less data, but by adding context. We need tools that let us pose complex questions and seek answers by putting together information from seemingly disparate sources.

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

Miss Katie Gunderson
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Earth Sciences
Jesus College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Oklahoma

I studied chemistry and geology at the University of Oklahoma, and have been involved in undergraduate research for several years. I recently interned at the US Dept of Energy’s Pacific Northwest National Laboratory studying nuclear waste remediation technologies. I have also studied paleoclimate in Tanzania, East Africa, and have been a research intern at the University of Notre Dame studying uranyl peroxide nanoclusters. While at Cambridge, I intend to pursue a PhD focusing on nuclear waste forms and atomic processes so I can advance our current knowledge about nuclear waste and how it interacts with and affects the environment. I plan to participate in research at a national laboratory or as research and teaching faculty at a University, and will translate what I learn through research to a larger public discussion about the viability and sustainability of nuclear power as an energy source.

Mr Michael Gwinner
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Stuttgart

Having finished my Diploma studies in Physics at the University of Stuttgart, I am continuing my research on organic electronics as a PhD student in the Optoelectronics Group. The project will be based on my Diploma thesis research, which I have pursued in Cambridge last year. My ultimate goal is to realise an electrically driven organic semiconductor laser by using light-emitting field-effect transistors. The reason for continuing a career in research is that I find it immensely satisfying to understand why and how things happen. Working at a world-leading institution gives me the opportunity to learn from the best scientists in my chosen research area, whilst allowing me to test my own ideas in a dynamic field of technological importance. I am looking forward to working in an ambitious and inspiring environment that helps me to further broaden my mind, and thus prepares me for my future career. In this context, I am very excited and proud to be part of the Gates community.

INTERESTS:
It has always been important to me to have education and studies balanced with physical activities. I take part in many sports, but particularly enjoy playing football and tennis. Before I came to Cambridge I played football in my hometown’s men’s team, and was a competitive tennis player attending German and international men’s tournaments. Early in my life I developed a great interest in politics, and was elected as a board member of the youth organisation of the German CDU party in my hometown last year. Furthermore, I am a big music fan in general, and therefore enjoy attending concerts in addition to play the keyboard myself. During my first year in Cambridge, I started to pursue typical English leisure time activities such as playing golf at the weekends.
Mr Michael Hayoun
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Biosciences Enterprise
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Rutgers University

I was raised in Margate, New Jersey, and studied Cell Biology/Neuroscience and Psychology with a certificate in Behavioral Pharmacology at Rutgers the State University of New Jersey. At Rutgers I have been active in neuroscience research and have worked in a variety of in vivo and in vitro, academic and pharmaceutical laboratories. Through my experiences in the pharmaceutical industry and clinical healthcare I have learned that science and medicine go hand in hand with business. I intend to combine the business skills learned in the MPhil in BioScience Enterprise with those of the MD and possibly PhD or MBA curriculums in order to achieve my goal of becoming a leader in the medical biotechnology sector.

INTERESTS:
Martial arts, figure skating, photography, cooking, dancing, traveling, football, medicine and anything with the word neuro or brain in it.

Mr Muhammad Irfan
Pakistan

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 arriving at Cambridge to read for MPhil Development Studies in 2007, I was working as a civil servant in Pakistan. During that time, I was actively involved in multilateral trade negotiations at the WTO and also worked with the ILO on improving labour standards in the country. This extensive engagement with negotiations and their impact on development policy has driven me to my proposed research. My aim is to find answers to how developing countries can raise labour standards to international levels while tackling the challenges of market access for their exports. After completing my PhD, I will initially return to my job in Pakistan. However, my ultimate aim is to contribute at a global level through research and publication in international organisations such as the WTO.

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

Miss Paula Haas
Germany

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social Anthropology
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

I completed my BA in Oriental Languages and Cultures, specialising in Chinese and Mongolian, at Venice University (Italy) in 2004. Following my graduation, I spent two years in Mongolia, where I taught Italian at the National University and the Mongolian University of Defence. In 2007, I started my MPhil in Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. For my PhD I wish to conduct research on the impact of the recent economic development in China’s northwest on the Mongols in Xinjiang, thereby focusing especially on trade and the traditional nomadic economy. I believe that studying the ongoing changes in the Mongolian community and their strategies of adaptation has not only academic relevance, but will also provide valuable insights for international development agencies. In the future I would like to continue research in the field of economic anthropology with a special focus on Mongolia and Inner Asia and to become actively involved in development aid.

INTERESTS:
Playing the clarinet, going to concerts and museums, reading, hiking, learning languages.
Mr. Noah Isserman
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Geographical Research
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Amherst College

The relationships between doing social good and pursuing economic self-interest fascinate me. At Amherst I created an independent major to explore the neural and hormonal correlates of decision-making in a game theory scenario that pitted emotion or “fairness” against economic return. I also ran a multi-campus storage/logistics firm with social and monetary profit goals. We helped non-profits raise funds, awareness, and material, offered free or subsidized services to needy clients, and paid high wages while gaining market share. These experiences, an internship with UBS Financial, and then working with NGOs and non-profits as a consultant, have convinced me that shifting my focus from neuroscience to the behavior of the multi-trillion dollar, rapidly-growing socially responsible finance sector is a more effective way for me to do research that links economics and emotion and might help create changes with tremendous social benefit.

Mr. Arun Jacob
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
BAff in Economics
St. Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
St. Stephen’s College, Delhi

Economics to me is about understanding people as consumers, producers, competitors and above all as human beings with innate emotions. This inherent proximity of the subject to everyday life attracts me most. I have developed interest in development economics, but I am afraid it may be due to lack of a deeper exposure to various fields in Economics. Two more years of rigorous Economics study (as an affiliated undergraduate) with the support of world renowned faculty, excellent library resources and truly competitive atmosphere as in Cambridge will channel my interests and facilitate my ambition to pursue doctoral work in Economics.

Miss Smruthi Jayasundar
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Surgery
St. John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Sri Ramachandra University, India
Ethiraj College, Chennai

I hold a Bachelor’s degree in Zoology and a postgraduate degree in Human Genetics. My doctoral research at Cambridge University is in the rapidly advancing field of stem cell biology, which has a wide gamut of applications in basic/clinical sciences. My intended area of research will be transcriptional regulation of 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, a singer and an eloquent speaker. I also draw, paint and make traditional handicrafts. Other interests are fashion designing, all forms of dance, music, reading, socializing.

Miss Jesse Kalata
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in International Relations
Jesus College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Boston University
Universität Tübingen

I graduated from Boston with a degree in International Relations in 2005, and was subsequently a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Tübingen. My research interests center on the EU, foreign and security policy, and the role of identity, memory, and cultural norms in international politics. At Cambridge I will conduct a quantitative assessment of the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy. My Fulbright project surveyed the effects of EU defense cooperation on German military strategy and structures. Complementing my studies, I interned with the US State Department in Hamburg, Germany in 2007. I have also mentored refugees in Boston and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Romania from 2005-2007. Upon completing the MPhil I plan to either pursue the PhD or begin work as a political analyst at a non-profit or government foreign policy institution. Throughout my career I hope to help shape and improve the American understanding of the European Union.

INTERESTS:
In my free time I enjoy learning new languages and studying modern French and German history.
Miss Tae-Yeoun Keum
South Korea

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Political Thought & Intellectual History
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Yale University

I was born in South Korea and grew up in the Philippines. I chose to attend college in the United States and specifically Yale for the quality of the liberal arts education offered in these places, and, by a similar line of reasoning, chose to major in the Humanities. Like many a hero (or antihero) of the humanistic tradition, I wandered through several disciplines, areas and eras of interest, but I found myself returning time and again to the works of Plato. At Cambridge, I hope to continue reading Plato, focusing this time on Plato’s use of stories and myth within the context of his political philosophy, as well as the context of intellectual history at large. This issue at stake - namely, the relationship between stories and the communities that hear them - is one that is particularly dear to my heart. I hope, one day, to share my love of reading and writing on a global scale, beginning with the Cambridge community.

INTERESTS:
Creative writing, reading, flute, trivia, good stories, mspaint.

Dr Sreenivasa Rao
Kondapally Seshasai
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Public Health & Primary Care
Hughes Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

I completed my medical training from Hyderabad, India. Thanks to a Commonwealth Scholarship, I subsequently read for MPhil in Epidemiology at Cambridge University (2006–07). Several questions remain unanswered regarding type 2 diabetes and its association with different vascular and non-vascular outcomes (e.g. cancer). For my PhD, I propose to study these associations using a database of approximately one million individuals, the Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration (ERFC). Such large-scale databases offer adequate power and precision to explore otherwise undetectable exposure-disease associations. Upon successful completion of my PhD, I intend to train further in clinical cardiology and ultimately lead a research group in India which would conduct world-class epidemiological research and train epidemiologists and preventive cardiologists.

INTERESTS:
Music, photography.

Ms Eszter Kovacs
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Environment, Society & Development
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Sydney

I have recently worked in community social services, in legal education at the NSW Environmental Defender’s Office, and tried to make a difference in the policy and activist areas of the climate change movement in Australia. At Cambridge I plan to develop my previous studies with an MPhil in ESD, researching environmental governance in SE Asia and the Pacific. Following this I intend to complete a PhD in political ecology. I see myself as a passionate and effective communicator in environmental issues, and in the years to come I hope to work as a leader in advocacy and policy.

INTERESTS:
I take my sport very seriously, and I have fenced at the Commonwealth Games in 2006, and have my sights set for CG 2010. I’m actively interested in individual sports (although I’ll try rowing), books, writing, languages, politics, debating, hot weather and beautiful places (particularly Sydney’s beaches).
Mr Naveen Krishnan
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Public Health
Wolfson College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The Gates Scholarship will allow me to establish a foundation in public health that I will later use in Medicine. I am pursuing a medical degree from the United States directly after the program in Cambridge. During medical school I will try to return to developing countries such as India and Nepal in order to establish public health programs. After medical school I would like to work as a surgeon who practices in both the United States and developing countries. I ultimately want to transition from a clinical practitioner into a health administrator in either the public or private sector. I hope to later work with the Gates Foundation in this regard.

INTERESTS:
Global health, medicine, surgery, Nepal, sports (American football, tennis, dodgeball), comedy, being social, constantly making one-line jokes, observational humor, television and cinema, long walks on the beach, fine wine and liquor.

Mr Niraj Lal
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Physics
Clare Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Australian National University

I’m starting a PhD in physics at the Nanophotonics Centre at Cambridge with Professor Jeremy Baumberg in January 2009, and I can’t wait. My topic is “Plasmonic enhanced low-cost photovoltaics” — using some new physics to make solar cells more efficient. I think one of the biggest scientific challenges of our generation is to understand the nature of climate change and develop ways to address it. I’m very much looking forward to contributing to a means of electricity generation that can be sustainable, safe and decentralised.

INTERESTS:
Outside of physics and the environment, I’m passionate about politics, governance, and science communication. Away from scholastic things, I stay sane by running, surfing, getting into the bush, playing soccer and music, and spending time with good mates and family.

Miss Alexandra Leech
Ireland

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social & Political Science
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
University College, Dublin

My most recent studies include an assessment of a curriculum-based suicide prevention programme for adolescents, an exploration of the influence of the media on occupational stress levels, and an investigation of the effects of academic stress on physiological and psychological health among adolescents. Following along this trend, my intended area of doctoral research is a child-centred, mixed method examination of depression during adolescence. I believe that adolescence is a distinctly transitory developmental period in which one has the potential to alleviate or exacerbate issues which yield both personal and societal burdens during adulthood. 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.

INTERESTS:
Outside the area of my studies, my interests include current affairs, travelling, volunteer work, literature, theatre and history.
Miss Julia Li
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Bioscience Enterprise
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Saskatchewan University

My passion in life is biotechnology and oncology research. I have pursued this passion from a young age and completed my undergraduate studies in Finance and Immunology. For the past three years, I have worked in the biotechnology practice of an international accounting firm as a Chartered Accountant (CA) and served as Director for the Student Biotechnology Network. I will be pursuing my Master’s in Bioscience Enterprise at the University of Cambridge and I hope to add to fuel to my entrepreneurial spirit. My career goal is to become a bioentrepreneur and successfully run a biotech start-up with a concentration in oncology treatments. I am also interested in researching the rapidly developing field of personalized medicine and the use of biomarkers to pinpoint drug efficacy in human sub-populations.

Miss Rachel Linn
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in International Studies
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Stanford University

I completed my MPhil degree in International Relations at Cambridge in 2008, for which I studied the political dynamics behind the creation of the Instance Equité et Réconciliation in Morocco. I plan to pursue a career in policy research, specializing in Middle Eastern and North African politics. For my PhD, I will study the development of moderate Islamist movements in response to local and international political pressures. At Cambridge, I am an Associate Editor for the Cambridge Review of International Affairs and am highly involved in my college – playing for the Trinity Hall Women’s Football Club, serving on the MCR Committee, rowing in the Women’s First VIII and serving as a Lower Boats Captain for the Trinity Hall Boat Club.

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

Mr Sean Lip
Malaysia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Applied Maths & Theoretical Physics
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

I studied theoretical physics at Trinity College and hope to pursue further studies in this field, particularly in cosmology, as I find the Universe fascinating – there is just so much we don’t know, and I would love to try my hand at solving (or at least just making a little headway on) some of the outstanding cosmological puzzles!

INTERESTS:
My interests include drama (especially musicals), ballroom dancing, chess, music, programming, writing and bridge. I am looking forward to continuing some of these activities over the next few years in Cambridge, and perhaps picking up new ones!
Ms Corina Logan
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Experimental Psychology
Murray Edwards College (New Hall)

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Evergreen State College
Skagit Valley College

As a behavioral ecologist I had the fascinating experience of studying play behavior in coatis (Nasua narica) in Costa Rica and conducting an exploratory proposal on behavioral traditions of bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) in the Gulf of California. I coauthored an article in the journal Behavioral & Brain Sciences, proposing that an innovation created by an individual and spread through social learning can drive evolutionary and ecological adaptations. At Cambridge I will investigate corvid cognition. I hypothesize that caching or foraging in the presence of competitors can increase physiological stress, which would indicate an awareness of others’ intentions. I hope to increase our awareness of cognitive levels in non-primate species. After obtaining a PhD, I will pursue research in social learning, behavioral traditions, animal innovation, and the evolution of cooperation/altruism as a research scientist and professor.

INTERESTS:
Tango dancing, yoga, hiking, tropical biology, evolutionary theory, play behavior, adventure.

Mr Andrew Lynch
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Chemical Engineering
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Kentucky

After growing up in Southeast Asia, I became a proud citizen of Williamsburg, Southeastern Kentucky at the beginning of my high school years and am now a senior studying chemical engineering at the University of Kentucky (go Cats!). As an undergraduate I have enjoyed several meaningful scientific research experiences and have had the opportunity to present my findings at conferences around the Unites States and Europe. Balancing my scientific work I enjoy studying the humanities as a Gaines Fellow at the University of Kentucky and working as a volunteer to promote higher education in Appalachia. At Cambridge I intend to pursue a PhD in Chemical Engineering with the Biosciences Engineering research group under Dr Nigel Slater. With my work at Cambridge as a foundation, I intend to help bridge the gap between academic investigation and useful technology.

INTERESTS:
Racquetball (maybe squash?), tennis, most any pickup game, traveling, outdoors, movies, food and cooking.

Ms Galina Mardilovich
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History of Art
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
New York University
University of Oregon

My interdisciplinary studies in the fields of international relations and art theory as well as my work experiences in the Department of Drawings and Prints at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in the Russian art department at Christie’s have led to my interest in the relationship between aesthetic development and national identity in Western European and Russian art. For my doctorate degree, I plan to research that relationship as it exists in Russian art history, particularly within the development of Modernism in Russian art.

INTERESTS:
Visiting museums, drinking tea, traveling and walking, Soviet children’s films.
Mr Andrew Marin
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Materials Science
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Georgia Institute of Technology

I graduated with a BS in Chemical Engineering at Georgia Tech. I have always enjoyed researching energy technology – traditional and alternative sources. A number of my undergraduate courses sparked my interest in photovoltaics and led me to pursue a PhD in the Materials Science. Cambridge has produced some of the greatest discoveries in this field, and I am excited to join such a stellar team! I also have a large interest in product design and plan to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities at Cambridge. To balance the emphasis on technology, I look forward to being sociable in Cambridge organizations and the Gates community!

INTERESTS:
I am a big sports enthusiast. I like to compete in triathlons and road races. I also enjoy wakeboarding, water skiing, snow skiing, and all team sports (soccer, basketball, baseball...). Beyond sports I love traveling, especially roadtrips, and food...both cooking and eating.

Ms Margaret McCarthy
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in History
St John’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo

I am working towards a PhD in Medieval History at the University of Cambridge, focusing on Carolingian documents and literacy during the ninth century.

Mr Michael McMahon
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Public Health
Hughes Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
United States Military Academy

I have been a senior Life Science major at the US Military Academy. As cadet-in-charge of the Big Brothers Big Sisters School Based Program, I was an active leader in an organization that reaches out as mentors to elementary/middle school students in the local community. I was Operations Officer of the American Chemical Society. West Point afforded me numerous leadership positions and military training experiences, including an internship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, platoon leader during Cadet Basic Training, Drill Cadet Leadership Training at Fort Benning, and most recently Asst Battalion Operations Officer. The MPhil at Cambridge will serve me immensely as I pursue a career in military medicine as a physician. Throughout my career, I will strive to improve the health of soldiers who serve our county within the military, as well as all those who live within the communities in which I practice, and the world communities when called to administer humanitarian aide.

Ms Ramona Meyricke
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Land Economy
Corpus Christi College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Australian National University

I completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Applied Statistics at the Australian National University. In my Honours year, I analysed public health data to identify factors determining the type of treatment chosen by patients with breast cancer and compare the effectiveness of different treatments. After graduating, I worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Australia, whilst qualifying as an actuary. My work and actuarial studies focused on financial risk management in relation to retirement incomes, employee benefits and welfare. My studies and work have led to my interest in how public policy can be used to effectively address long-term social problems involving uncertainty. At Cambridge, I will be working on an economic model which links energy, the economy and environmental impacts on a global scale. This will improve our understanding of the interactions between policy instruments, technology, energy prices, general price levels, economic growth and the environment.
Ms Barbara Miltner
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Law
Wolfson College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Michigan

My interests in foreign cultures and charitable work have evolved through the years from overseas studies and a French language degree to volunteer work in Botswana, and five years as a foundation staff member funding Chicago non-profits and international relief efforts. In law school my discovery of refugee law allowed me to merge these interests, pursuing academic issues related to international refugee policy and personal representation of refugee clients. For 2 years I have been teaching law in Scotland, where I continued to explore gaps in international refugee protection, particularly outside territorial borders where little or no protection exists. I am particularly interested in the broader issue of treaty application when a country acts outside its own borders. A PhD at Cambridge gives me the luxury of focusing my research on a concrete legal problem that endangers lives and threatens international treaty-making and enforcement.

Ms Silvia Montano Palomino
Sweden

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Latin American Studies
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

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.

Miss Chawita Netirojanakul
Thailand

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Technology Policy
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Having experienced the difference in science and technology in Thailand, the US, and the UK, I have a dream to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries in a scientific context. The world is connected by the globalization of IT – perhaps similar attitude could emerge for science. It is a long-term goal of mine to contribute to the development and management of interdisciplinary and collaborative projects that would help to enhance the diversity of global science. I wish to strengthen my policy and entrepreneurship skills through the MPhil program in Technology Policy, which will greatly complement my future progress in science, particularly in implementing possible applications of my research. I plan to emphasize my study on possibilities to initiate scientific enterprise and expand Research and Development departments in existing private enterprises in developing countries, particularly Thailand.
Mr Yifan Ng
Singapore

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Surgery
Churchill College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
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.

Miss Stella Nordhagen
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Economics (Option B)
Queens’ College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Middlebury College

As an undergraduate at Middlebury College, I studied economics and physics, conducting original research in both astronomy and economics. After graduation, I spent two years conducting quantitative global health research as a post-bachelor’s fellow at the Harvard Initiative for Global Health in Cambridge, MA and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluations in Seattle, WA. This interdisciplinary research allowed me to explore health and development issues worldwide, then to apply these insights by helping to implement field surveys in Tanzania. At Cambridge, I am pursuing an MPhil in Economics. In my future career, I plan to apply economic theory to shed light onto a variety of far-reaching issues involving the intersection of economic development with health and environmental concerns.

INTERESTS:
Anything outdoors! Specifically: hiking and backpacking, climbing rock and ice, skiing alpine, nordic and telemark. In the flatter locale of Cambridge, I plan to continue running, perhaps training for a second marathon. I also love to travel; having spent much of the past spring and summer in sub-Saharan Africa, I’m now looking forward to exploring England and beyond while based at Cambridge. When not outside, I enjoy discussing politics, cooking and baking, and foreign languages.

Miss Amber North
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in History & Philosophy of Science
King's College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Northwestern University

My undergraduate work in both analytic philosophy and international studies brought me to an interesting cross-section of research. As a sort of “experimental philosopher” my projects ranged from inquiries into the mind body problem, to holism in philosophy of physics, to the rewriting of postcolonial history in Vietnam. It is my belief that great work can be done if we can get past our analytic/continental blocks in the field, and bring both armchair and experimental tools to the table. At Cambridge I hope to ground this conviction by developing my analytic skills in philosophy of science and epistemology, while also aiming at big questions such as the role of values in science, the fact/value distinction, and the contemporary concept of human rights. I feel honored to be able to begin my graduate journey at Cambridge, and am confident that the talent in the department will provide me the depth needed to begin tackling these questions.

INTERESTS:
Hiking, travel, songwriting, new cuisine, pubs, family gatherings, museums, public transit, used bookstores, open mics, religious studies, all-night conversations, theories of justice, the great Northwest.
Mr Brendan O’Dwyer
Ireland

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Atomic Astrophysics
Hughes Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
National University of Ireland

My proposed PhD project involves examining high energy emission from the solar corona, in an effort to understand the questions associated with the nature of the processes that heat the solar corona to such high temperatures, maintain it at these temperatures and also accelerate the solar wind. The project will involve use of data obtained from the Hinode satellite. My intention is to use my PhD training as a springboard for future research in the field. My ultimate aim is to become a Principal Investigator, leading my own research group. Obtaining a PhD from DAMTP would be a major step towards realising these ambitions.

**INTERESTS:**
I have achieved competitive success in Gaelic football and athletics. I enjoy playing and watching football with friends. I was a member of the chess society and cricket club in NUIG. I also enjoy watching films and listening to music.

Mr Ji Yeol Oh
South Korea

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
CPGS in Economics
Christ’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge

I am a first year PhD economics student at Christ’s College, having completed both MPhil and BA in Economics at the same place. My primary research interest lies with the extension and application of existing theories of herding and feedback trading in financial markets, with the aim of rationalising and deepening the understanding of the recent crisis in the US subprime markets, and, in particular, explaining its rapid spill-over effects into other areas of financial intermediation. During my time at Cambridge, as a choral scholar, I have been involved in various musical activities. I have represented the college for badminton and cricket, and twice as a treasurer to the University Korean Society, served faithfully for the Korean community. Ultimately, having completed the doctorate degree, I would like to work for an international organisation, such as the IMF, and hope to contribute towards improved functioning of financial markets in Asian countries.

**INTERESTS:**
Choir, playing the clarinet, classical music in general, fine wine (always a plus in Cambridge!!), badminton, squash, tennis and cricket (medium-pace bowler).

Mr Gabriel Onagoruwa
Nigeria

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Law
Wolfson College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge
University of Ibadan

I thoroughly enjoyed my masters in Law Programme at the University of Cambridge and I am grateful to the trust for funding my PhD research interest. My research is focused on cross-border bank insolvencies. I am particularly interested in the differing methods of managing international bank insolvencies in the global financial market.

**INTERESTS:**
Music, soccer and traveling.

Mr Matthew Oreska
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Biological Science (Zoology)
Christ’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
College of William and Mary

I am dedicating my life to the mitigation of resource demand impacts on ecosystems. I would like to facilitate dialogue between academia and the mainstream on environmental issues. As an undergraduate at the College of William and Mary, I studied geology and economics to gain a better understanding of natural resource demand. My geology independent research focused on the Chesapeake Bay’s molluscan fauna, whereas my senior honors research entailed Cretaceous paleoecology. At Cambridge, my MPhil study will analyze the demand for freshwater and associated effects on aquatic biota, prior to pursuing a doctorate in ecology, when I plan to continue my investigation of ecosystem responses to anthropogenic activities.

**INTERESTS:**
My extracurricular activities reflect my diverse interests in natural history, culture, and international politics. I value volunteerism, political activism, and knowledge of current issues. While at William and Mary, I was involved in such groups as the Geology Club, the Taekwondo Club, and the Student Environmental Action Coalition. During the spring semester 2008 I conducted research at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.
Mr Duc Phan
Vietnam

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Economics
Girton College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Cambridge

After completing my undergraduate degree in Evolutionary Anthropology and Paleoecology at Rutgers University in 2008, I spent the summer analyzing faunal remains at the Bronze Age site of Alalakh in southern Turkey. This built on my previous research experiences at Rutgers, the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC, and the American Museum of Natural History in New York. I am especially interested in the origins of domestication and the rise of complex societies and how we can use science in archaeology to better understand these processes. At Cambridge, I will be working with Dr Preston Miracle to reconstruct the human diet and use of animal resources in early societies. In the future, I intend to continue conducting research as a professor with a focus on environmental archaeology and archaeological site management. I am also concerned with the role of archaeological tourism in site conservation and its implications for surrounding geographic areas. On the serious side, I care deeply about science education, sustainability of archaeological tourism practices and cultural heritage management, as well as community outreach and activism.

**INTERESTS:**
For fun, I love traveling, hiking, kayaking, reading, and writing, in addition to studying archaeology, natural history, and human ecology.

Miss Suzanne Pilar
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Archaeological Science
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Rutgers University

Problem solving and unravelling complex problems have always interested me. I enjoyed my various research projects and helping people has been especially rewarding to me. This is the major motivation for my future career plans which are to undertake PhD research that would help in understanding the complex networking of signals that are responsible for diseases such as obesity and diabetes. Current pharmacological and behavioural strategies have had limited success in preventing both the prevalence of obesity driven diabetes and its deleterious metabolic consequences. Given the urgency of the problem, new pathogenic mechanisms and tissue-specific targets need to be identified that can have potential for future targeted therapies. I am thankful to Gates Cambridge Trust for providing me an opportunity to work towards this goal.

**INTERESTS:**
Listening to variety of music (world music, Indian classical, instrumental, pop, bollywood), playing Guitar, sketching, experimental cooking, reading, writing, watching movies and travelling.

Miss Meghana Patel
India

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Clinical Biochemistry
St Edmund’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Sheffield Hallam University
Gujarat University

Problem solving and unravelling complex problems have always interested me. I enjoyed my various research projects and helping people has been especially rewarding to me. This is the major motivation for my future career plans which are to undertake PhD research that would help in understanding the complex networking of signals that are responsible for diseases such as obesity and diabetes. Current pharmacological and behavioural strategies have had limited success in preventing both the prevalence of obesity driven diabetes and its deleterious metabolic consequences. Given the urgency of the problem, new pathogenic mechanisms and tissue-specific targets need to be identified that can have potential for future targeted therapies. I am thankful to Gates Cambridge Trust for providing me an opportunity to work towards this goal.

**INTERESTS:**
Listening to variety of music (world music, Indian classical, instrumental, pop, bollywood), playing Guitar, sketching, experimental cooking, reading, writing, watching movies and travelling.
Miss Hannah Pincham
Australia

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Education
Homerton College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Sydney

I recently completed my undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Sydney. My thesis investigated the contributions of conscious awareness and visual attention to associative learning in human beings. To integrate my research in psychology with my voluntary work in education, I intend to pursue an MPhil in Education (Education and Psychology) at Cambridge. Eventually I aim to work in developing countries within the interrelated fields of psychological wellbeing and educational improvement.

INTERESTS:
I thoroughly enjoy team sports. I have played netball for over 14 years. I also captained my March Past team to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships in 2001 and 2002.

Mr Mateusz Plucinski
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Computational Biology
Pembroke College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Princeton University


INTERESTS:
Academic: theoretical/mathematical ecology, mathematical modeling; other: travel.

Mr Shawn Powers
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Development Studies
Emmanuel College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Williams College

At Cambridge, I intend to pursue an MPhil in Development Studies, and in so doing return the focus of my career to anti-poverty work in the international arena. Equipped with the deeper knowledge of development theory and practice that I would gain from this interdisciplinary program, I hope to take on a leadership role in a non-governmental or multilateral development institution.

Ms Surabhi Ranganathan
India

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.iiljfilms.blogspot.com.
Mr Robert Rose
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in International Relations
King’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
United States Military Academy

I will complete an MPhil in International Relations at Cambridge, writing a thesis on terrorism in North Africa, specifically al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. Afterwards, I will serve as an Infantry Officer in the US Army, eventually hoping to work in Africa in Special Forces or as a Defense Attaché. One day, I hope to help craft US policy towards that troubled continent.

INTERESTS:
My extracurricular activities and interests include the opera club, the Domestic Affairs Forum, drawing with charcoal, the Model Arab League, and numerous intramural sports teams.

Mrs Jennifer Saari
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Education
Trinity Hall

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

Issues of access and equity, especially regarding geography, immigration, and socio-economic status, motivate my work in education. My work is informed by having implemented a programme increasing student retention and success in mathematics and the sciences, and as a Fulbright Fellow researching gender and mathematics in Finland. While at Cambridge, I became fascinated by the economics and philosophy of education. Currently, I am investigating the beliefs, motivations, and access of mathematics students in the US and Finland, which I will expand to a multi-nation quantitative study. I plan to pursue a career in international educational research and policy with an emphasis on access and equity.

INTERESTS:
I enjoy Ultimate Frisbee, rambling, Nordic walking, natural foods and learning languages.

Miss Sukanya Sarbadhikary
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Social Anthropology
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Centre for Study of Society and Secularism, Mumbai

Broadly speaking, 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 semi-classical 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

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in English  
Christ's College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Queensland

As a student of poetry, I’m excited about joining Christ’s College in this, the 400th anniversary of the birth of poet John Milton, a Christ’s alumnus. I’ve spent most of my life on the east coast of Australia where, after withdrawing from a Law/Commerce double degree, I completed an honours dissertation in English on Shakespeare’s influence on John Keats. I’m absolutely thrilled to be commencing my PhD in English at Cambridge, where I will focus on the poetry and prose of Les Murray through the lens of Dante Alighieri’s argument, as expressed in De Vulgari Eloquentia, for a sublime vernacular. I am the poetry consultant to the Australian Literary Review (supplement to The Australian newspaper) and my second poetry volume is forthcoming in 2009. Cambridge’s poetic tradition is second to none, and I relish the opportunity to conduct research here under the auspices of Dr Rod Mengham, and to hone my craft as a writer and editor in the shadows cast by so many exemplars of both.

**INTERESTS:**  
Surfing, poetry, amateur astronomy, Italy, modern art, photography, theater, politics, cricket.

Mr Jeremiah Schwarz  
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Land Economy  
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 Fordham University (History, with Politics and American studies) I was commissioned 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.

**INTERESTS:**  
I enjoy competitive sports and last year played CU Rugby League.

Miss Susanne Schweizer  
Switzerland

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Biology  
Clare College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Maastricht University  
Tilburg University

My research interests focus on understanding the effects of psychological trauma, in particular posttraumatic stress disorder. My proposed PhD studies will examine neural, genetic and psychological components involved in the regulation of emotion in traumatised individuals. This work should have direct clinical implications for the refinement of psychological treatments. Indeed, focusing on this translation from basic science to the clinic in understanding PTSD will hopefully be the main theme of my future career.

Currently I work for a crisis-communication firm providing training to groups with an occupational hazard to experience trauma (e.g. soldiers). Before coming to Cambridge I completed a two-year MSc at Maastricht University that focused on Research in Psychopathology and Neuroscience. As part of the curriculum I received extensive research and clinical training.

**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. Over the past five years I have lived on three different continents in six countries. But now I am very much looking forward to settling in Cambridge for the next three years.
Miss Elizabeth Sefton
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Biological Science (Zoology)
Hughes Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of Chicago

At Cambridge I will pursue an MPhil in Zoology with Dr Michael Akam studying segmentation in arthropods. I will compare segmentation mechanisms in a basal lineage of insects to those in vertebrates. Additionally I hope to participate in science education with the University Museum of Zoology in Cambridge. In my career I will continue scientific research in a university or museum setting while serving as an educator. I would like to study developmental biology through a comparative lens, leading to a greater understanding of evolutionary history.

**INTERESTS:**
I have worked on theatrical productions with University Theater in various areas, including scenic design, acting, stage management, and direction. I served on the committee for UT and taught theater workshops to children as a summer camp counselor. I also interned at the Children’s Place Association, a Chicago-based social service agency for children affected by HIV.

---

Miss Jessica Shang
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Engineering
Churchill College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Harvard University

As an undergraduate concentrating in Engineering Sciences at Harvard University, I conducted research at the junction of two seemingly disparate fields: robotics and fluid mechanics. Both of these are necessary in the development of highly maneuverable, autonomous aerial vehicles useful in search and rescue missions; I hope to gain a greater knowledge of fluid dynamics at Cambridge, the home of some of the greatest fluid dynamicists in history. To this end, I will be working with Dr Holger Babinsky to more deeply explore the fluid dynamics of natural flight in order to engineer these principles to future applications. These studies will allow me to one day shape science, society, and students through research and teaching as a university professor. At the conclusion of my MPhil in Engineering at Cambridge, I plan to pursue PhD studies in Mechanical Engineering.

**INTERESTS:**
Fluid dynamics, robotics; photography, food, cooking, travel, conversation and banter, new/modern fiction.

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Mr Chander Shekhar Sharma**
India

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Engineering
Trinity College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Indian Institute of Science

Hi, I am Chander and I was born and brought up in Patiala, India. Currently, I am working with General Motors in Bangalore, India. Here, my work involves modeling of automobile exhaust systems. Earlier, I completed my Master’s from Indian Institute of Science (I.I.Sc.), Bangalore and Bachelor’s from Thapar University, Patiala. I received scholarships and won gold medals at both levels. I always had a liking for fluid mechanics and thermodynamics and at I.I.Sc. I got interested in combustion and emission formation. There, I worked on modeling of combustion and fluid dynamics inside a diesel engine cylinder. At Cambridge, I’ll continue work on combustion modeling. Here, I hope to significantly improve my understanding of fluid turbulence along with its influence on combustion. I believe my studies at Cambridge would provide me with a great platform to build a career in combustion research and contribute towards the current efforts in emission reduction and sustainable use of fossil fuels.

**INTERESTS:**
I like sketching, reading constitutional analysis in newspapers and watching movies based on true stories and science fiction.
**Mr Murat Siviloglu**  
Turkey  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in History  
Peterhouse  
**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris  
Boğaziçi University, Istanbul  
At Cambridge I will work under the supervision of Professor Christopher Bayly on the Crimean War from the hitherto largely neglected Ottoman perspective.

**Mr Pawel Sledz**  
Poland  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Chemistry  
St Edmund’s College  
**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Warsaw  
Soon after the beginning of my undergraduate studies in chemistry at the University of Warsaw, I became engaged in research on new methodologies in organometallic chemistry at the Polish Academy of Sciences, and continued it as a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow at Caltech. Afterwards, in 2006, I moved to structural biochemistry, concentrating on solving protein structures using advanced methodologies like NMR and X-Ray diffraction techniques. As a graduate student at the University of Cambridge I intend to focus on the application of the knowledge of protein structures to drug design. I believe that work in this field may be useful to the world community, leading to solving important health problems threatening the mankind nowadays.  
**INTERESTS:**  
Traveling, sailing, watching good movies.

**Mr William Smiley**  
United States  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
PhD in Oriental Studies  
Queens’ College  
**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
University of Utah  
Hillsdale College  
I’m originally from Wisconsin, and I’m in Cambridge working on a PhD in Ottoman History with Kate Fleet – my project is a comparison of Russian and Ottoman cultural responses to the wars they fought with each other in the eighteenth century. Before coming to Cambridge I got an MA from the University of Utah, a BA from Hillsdale College in Michigan, and worked for a year on Capitol Hill.  
**INTERESTS:**  
Ultimate Frisbee, running, cooking, and occasionally my research.

**Mr Brian Spatocco**  
United States  
**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**  
MPhil in Micro- and Nanotechnology  
Churchill College  
**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**  
Rutgers University  
My goal in attending Cambridge and reading for an MPhil in Micro- and Nanotechnology Enterprise is to finally tie together my technical skills sets in Materials Science with my interest in business and marketing into one synergistic package. Following this work, I plan to pursue a career in venture capitalism which focuses on early-stage research breakthroughs and improvements which will fundamentally enhance the way we live, work, and enjoy ourselves. In other words, it is my goal to utilize strategic investment in order to transform the smallest nano-scaled dreams to the largest industrial applications.  
**INTERESTS:**  
Traveling, cooking/eating foreign foods, social satire, collecting books, exercising, restaurants and breweries, foreign languages.
Mr Philip Strik
Netherlands

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Law
Sidney Sussex College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Oxford
University of Leiden
Institut d’Etudes Politiques, Paris

Having finished grammar school at an early age, I took up the challenge of exploring the many wide-ranging academic interests I have. I read Philosophy, Political Science and Italian, in Leiden and Paris, and have since focused my studies on the interplay between international economic relations and international law. In reading for an LLM in European Law in Leiden, as well as an MPhil in International Relations in Oxford, my main focus has been the external economic relations of the European Community. My doctoral research engages with the legal aspects of the external dimension of the Community’s Single Market in the field of foreign direct investment. This relatively understudied area of European external economic relations has a large impact on the international regulation of FDI, and on third countries’ foreign economic policy.

INTERESTS:
Rowing, football, skiing, romance languages, Italian philosophy and literature, music.

Mr Garth Strohbehn
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Medical Sciences (Clinical Biochemistry)
St Edmund’s College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Iowa

I’m very fortunate to have the opportunity to read for the MPhil in Medical Sciences as a member of St. Edmund’s. My undergraduate research projects were quite different, one focused on the biology of prostate cancer metastasis and the other on development of Brownian Dynamics molecular simulation techniques and their application to macromolecular biological systems. At Cambridge, I am studying the clinical biochemistry of metabolic disorders.

INTERESTS:
Playing and discussing/arguing sports, including basketball, golf, and football (not American football!). I also enjoy hiking and ultimate frisbee. My other interests include political strategy, ales and lagers, and reading poorly written paperback mystery novels (a guilty pleasure).

Mr Sathish Subramanian
India

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Biological Science
Darwin College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Pennsylvania

My particular interest is in studying infectious diseases afflicting communities in low-income countries and thereby engineering novel ways to counter them. Malaria is an unrelenting disease in Zambia, as it is in many other countries of the sub-Sahara. Based at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, I will use the latest life science research methodologies at large scale to study the pathways utilized by the wily malaria parasite to invade human erythrocytes. This approach may uncover specific invasion molecules associated with severe clinical malaria, potentially important candidates for future vaccine or drug development. I look forward to being a part of this eclectic community of scholars and honing my skills as a scientist under the mentorship of leading malaria researchers at the Sanger.

INTERESTS:
Hiking, travel, public speaking, African history & politics, football, cricket, tennis, and listening to music from distant lands.
Miss Wee Zi Tan
Singapore

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Criminology
Clare Hall

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
University of York

I am honoured to be part of the Gates community and to be given the opportunity to pursue my further studies here at Cambridge. I will be returning to Singapore to work in the prison service upon graduation and hope to use the knowledge gained in my course to improve the offender rehabilitation programmes in the prisons back home.

**INTERESTS:**
Travelling, reading, swimming, watching anime, reading manga and having a nice day in.

---

Miss Yvonne Tew**
Malaysia

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
PhD in Law
St Catharine’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Harvard Law School

My desire to pursue a PhD in Law at Cambridge focussing on civil liberties and constitutional law in Malaysia derives from two motivations: my commitment to the shaping of Malaysia’s legal landscape, and a passion for the intellectual rigor of the law. I aim for a career at a leading academic institution, which will allow me to combine my passion for the scholastic with my desire to see this passion translated into concrete practical effect through active work with international or Malaysian law reform organizations. I intend to ensure that my research interest is grounded in concrete foundations: in line with this, I will be carrying out an internship with the United Nations in New York on issues related to my thesis before starting my PhD in Cambridge in October 2009.

**INTERESTS:**
As a student I wrote for the Harvard Law School newspaper, debated, mooted, and was editor of several student publications. I love jazz, swing, musicals, film, journalism, salsa, literature, and passionately arguing about issues of interest to me – which range from gender issues to Disney.

---

Mr Rishi Wadhera
United States

**COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:**
MPhil in Public Health
St John’s College

**PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:**
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
University of Wisconsin – Madison

Exposures to dire health conditions in less-fortunate communities domestically and internationally ignited my interest in public health. In college I immersed myself in public-health initiatives by spending summers volunteering at charity clinics in India and working for community-based programs in Managua, Nicaragua. I plan to build upon these experiences by completing a MPhil in Public Health at Cambridge. Through this program, I will gain a deeper understanding of how to apply public health assessment, epidemiological principles, and interventional design to address health disparities. My passion is to utilize this foundation in public health and medicine to tackle emerging health issues in underprivileged communities.

**INTERESTS:**
In my spare time, I enjoy playing the cello, piano, soccer, tennis and traveling.
Mr Yingqi Wang
Canada

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Pharmacology
Gonville & Caius College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge

During my MPhil I will be investigating pain sensation, and especially noxious heat receptors as they are one of the most complex protein receptors in the human body. From this course, apart from developing a solid understanding of molecular pharmacology and biochemistry, I also hope to acquire invaluable experience in experimental techniques, which would prepare me well for a PhD. Beyond postgraduate education, I aim to crack into the scientific world or head into industry.

INTERESTS:
I like to involve myself in the welfare of fellow students, which is why I found my capacity as International Cambridge University Student Union Secretary in 2006 most befitting. I have also been one of the main organisers for 2 charity concerts, which successfully raised enough money to erect a school in a rural Thai village. Finally, I also love music and I regularly perform with a university orchestra and an a cappella choir.

Miss Tara Jane Westover
United States

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History
Trinity College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
Brigham Young University

At Cambridge I will concentrate on John Stuart Mill's theory and practical politics. He has had great influence on modern liberalism but serious contradictions in his philosophy must be explored to see if theory and practice can be reconciled and if his liberalism maintains relevance today. I intend to study Mill's position through his written philosophy and also an historical examination of his actions and recommendations when he dealt with group and individual rights in his own time.

INTERESTS:
My interests divide between history and political science, specifically intellectual history and history of international relations. Snowboarding, rock climbing, eating Indian food, traveling, running, beaches.

Mr Xuesheng You
China

COURSE IN CAMBRIDGE:
PhD in Economics
Wolfson College

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITIES:
University of Cambridge
Manchester University

I graduated from the University of Manchester with a first class degree in economic science and Manchester School Prize. Then I worked towards my MPhil degree in Economics (Option B) in Cambridge. My research interests for my PhD lie in the area of intra-household behavior under uncertainty. Despite numerous works already existing in this area, there is still no clear answer to the question of how individual household members would economically interact within the household as involvement of psychological factors complex the mathematical household behavior model we may believe in. My career plan is to continue my research in an academic institution and shed light on this area.

INTERESTS:
Painting, Chinese calligraphy, art history, Greek tragedy, Chinese literature with focused interests in Qin and Han Dynasty, philosophy.
## Countries of Origin of Gates Scholars in residence, 2008–09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Scholars</th>
</tr>
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<td>Argentina</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Bhutan</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Iceland</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>Serbia</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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<td>Vietnam</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total countries represented: 58  Total scholars in residence 2008–09: 290
Gates Scholars’ Society

The Gates Cambridge Scholars’ Society includes and represents all Gates Scholars, past and present.

Scholars’ Council 2007–08

The members of the Society who are current students at the University of Cambridge and who hold a Gates Cambridge Scholarship may elect from among their own number a Council of the Gates Scholars’ Society. The purpose of the Council is to further the interests of the Trust and to work with the officers and the membership to develop and promote an international network of Gates Cambridge Scholars. The Officers of the Council for the period 2007–08 are listed below. A new Scholars’ Council for 2008–09 will be elected at the beginning of November 2008 and will appear in the 2009 yearbook.

Rachel Pike  
Chair

Hamish Forsyth  
External Officer

Vijay Kanuru  
Social Officer

Thomas Johnson  
Secretary

Amparo Flores  
External Officer

Gregory Jordan  
Technology Officer

Robert James  
Treasurer

Kate Brandt  
Alumni Officer

Jonathan Breidbord  
Technology

Caitlin Casey  
Internal Officer

Molly Crockett  
Alumni Officer

Aisling Byrne  
Editor-in-Chief, The Gates Scholar

King Lemuel Mills  
Internal Officer

William Liechty  
Social Officer

Alumni Association

Past Gates Scholars automatically become members of the Gates Scholars’ Alumni Association (GSAA), an integral part of the Gates Scholars’ Society. Established in 2005 by members of the inaugural class of scholars, the Alumni Association works to ensure each alumnus remains as much a part of the Gates community after they leave Cambridge as they did while they were here. Through regular alumni activities, the biannual Gates Newsletter, the website, a well-maintained contact database and by reaching out and working with other organizations, the GSAA aims to build a strong and lasting network of future leaders who work together to make significant contributions to the global community. The GSAA is represented globally by the GSAA Coordinating Committee, which has eight members from diverse geographical locations, three of whom act as co-chairs and one of whom sits on the Board of Trustees for the Gates Cambridge Trust. The Association has regional representatives in more than seventeen cities or regions around the world. The GSAA is further pursuing its mission by building partnerships with organizations such as the British Council and the Gates Millennium Scholarship, and through University outreach activities through the Gates Ambassadors Program. With over 450 alumni now situated throughout the world, the GSAA will continue to work closely with alumni, the current Scholars’ Council and the Trust to strengthen communications further and to expand opportunities for former scholars.

Co-Chairs of the Alumni Association

Andrew Robertson  

Jennifer Gibson  

Hilary Levey  

The following 534 Gates Scholars have completed the tenure of their scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Citizen</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>College</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Rashad</td>
<td>Abbasov</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>Wolfson College</td>
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<td>Mr Hisham</td>
<td>Abu-Rayya</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>Social &amp; Political Science</td>
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<td>Miss Aniko</td>
<td>Adam</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<td>Mr Matthew</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
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<td>Mr Ryan</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
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<td>Mr Adewale</td>
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<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>Hughes Hall</td>
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<td>Mr Antonio</td>
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<td>Mr Alexander</td>
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Mr Alan Rodrigues 2007 USA MPhil Computational Biology Emmanuel College
Ms Alessandro Rossiglioni 2001 Italy PhD Chemical Engineering Selwyn College
Dr Ana Rossi 2003 Argentina PhD Pharmacology Wolfson College
Miss Amy Rowe 2004 USA PhD Social Anthropology Girton College
Mrs Kristen Rule 2002 USA MPhil Materials Modelling Churchill College
Dr Christopher Rumball 2007 New Zealand MPhil BioScience Enterprise Wolfson College
Ms Antonia Ruppel* 2001 Germany MPhil & PhD Classics Newnham College
Dr Colin Russell 2002 USA PhD Zoology Queens' College
Dr Oksana Ruzak (now Trushkevych) 2001 Ukraine PhD Engineering St John's College
Mr David Rybicki 2001 USA MPhil European Literature Trinity Hall
Mr Shamsher Samra 2007 USA MPhil Development Studies Hughes Hall
Miss Nuria Sanchez Puig 2001 Mexico PhD Chemistry Gonville & Caius College
Mrs Claudia Sanhueza Riveros 2001 Chile PhD Economics Churchill College
Dr Sovan Sarkar 2002 India PhD Medical Genetics Hughes Hall
Dr Emma Sayer 2001 Switzerland PhD Plant Sciences Trinity Hall
Mr Ronald Scalise Jr 2002 USA LLM Law Trinity College
Dr Sandra Scanlon 2001 Ireland PhD History Peterhouse
Ms Dana Scardigli** 2002 USA M Phil European Studies Trinity College
Mr Flavius Schackert 2005 Germany MPhil Physics Wolfson College
Miss Bridgette Schaffer 2001 USA PhD Anglo Saxon Girton College
Ms Chloé Schama 2007 USA MPhil English Studies Christ's College
Mr Jost Schumann 2003 Germany PhD Engineering Darwin College
Miss Birke-Sni Scherf 2001 Germany PgC History of Art Gonville & Caius College
Miss Johanna Schmidtke 2002 USA PhD Physics Churchill College
Mr Alan Schoenfeld 2002 USA MPhil Education Clare Hall
Mr Jonathan Schoenfeld 2002 USA MPhil Biological Science Churchill College
Mr Daniel Schudles 2004 Germany MPhil Economics Trinity Hall
Mr Joel Schumacher 2003 USA MPhil International Relations Darwin College
Miss Anne Schunck 2002 Germany PhD Theoretical Physics St John's College
Mr Lane Schwartz 2001 USA MPhil Computer Speech, Text & Internet Technology Churchill College
Ms Robyn Scott 2004 New Zealand MPhil BioScience Enterprise St Catharine's College
Ms Lina Sestokas 2005 USA MPhil Biological Science Emmanuel College
Miss Bedra Sharif 2001 Iraq PhD Genetics Lucy Cavendish College
Dr Albina Shayevich (now Shayevich Colden) 2002 USA PhD Social & Political Science King's College
Miss Lishan Shi 2003 China PhD Economics St John's College
Mr Zain Shirazi 2004 Canada PhD History Fitzwilliam College
Mr Jay Silver 2002 USA MPhil Computer Speech, Text & Internet Technology Churchill College
Ms Anna Silverstein 2004 USA MPhil Classics King's College
Dr Khe Sim 2001 Malaysia MPhil Computer Speech, Text & Internet Technology Churchill College
Dr Aninda Sinha 2001 India PhD Theoretical Physics Gonville & Caius College
Ms Urbasi Sinha 2002 India PhD Materials Science & Metallurgy Queens' College
Miss Wiliatluk Sinswat 2001 Thailand PhD Land Economy St John's College
Mr Jeffrey Skopek 2003 USA PhD History & Philosophy of Science & Medicine Queens' College
Mr Nikolai Slywka* 2001 USA MPhil & PhD English Pembroke College
Mr Johannes Smit 2003 South Africa PhD Philosophy Darwin College
Ms Leda Smith 2005 USA MPhil Quaternary Science Newnham College
Ms Adrien Smith 2006 USA PhD European Literature Emmanuel College
Dr Hilary Soderland* 2001 USA MPhil & PhD Archaeology Pembroke College
Ms Buntarika Somboonsub 2005 Thailand LLM Law Trinity Hall
Mr Julian Sonner 2004 Germany PhD Theoretical Physics Trinity College
Mr Spyridon Sotiadiadis 2005 Greece CASM Mathematics Robinson College
Ms Elizabeth Sowers 2004 USA MPhil Modern Society & Global Transitions St John's College
Ms Jessica Stebbins 2002 USA PhD Economic & Social History Peterhouse
Mr Asbjoern Steglich-Petersen 2003 Denmark PhD Philosophy Darwin College
Ms Robin Stein 2002 USA PhD Chemistry Churchill College
Mr Florian Steinberger 2004 Germany PhD Philosophy Hughes Hall
Mr Krishnan Subrahmanian 2006 USA MPhil Education Fitzwilliam
Mr Danu Suwatchara 2005 Thailand MPhil Advanced Chemical Engineering Practice St Edmund's College
Ms Cassandra Sweet 2004 USA PhD Land Economy Jesus College
Dr Astrid Swenson 2001 Germany PhD History St John's College
Miss Simoni Symeondou 2001 Cyprus PhD Education Darwin College
Mr Bartlomiej Szewczyk 2001 USA MPhil International Relations Trinity Hall
Ms Kathryn Tabb 2007 USA MPhil History, Philosophy & Sociology of Science, Technology & Medicine Clare Hall
| Ms Su-Yin Tan | 2003 | Canada | PhD | Geography | Wolfson College |
| Mr Moncef Tanfou | 2002 | Algeria | PhD | Engineering | St John's College |
| Miss Evelyn Tang | 2007 | Malaysia | MPhil | Physics | Sidney Sussex College |
| Dr Natasha Telyatnikova | 2001 | Russia | PhD | Immunology | St Catharine's College |
| Miss Mamta Thangaraj | 2003 | India | PhD | Physics | Wolfson College |
| Dr Arasanathan Thayanathan | 2001 | Sri Lanka | PhD | Engineering | Jesus College |
| Dr Susanna Thropp | 2001 | USA | PhD | History | Trinity Hall |
| Mr Indrasenan Thusyanthan | 2001 | Sri Lanka | PhD | Engineering | Girton College |
| Ms Sarah Tierney | 2004 | USA | MPhil | Development Studies | Lucy Cavendish College |
| Dr Anke Timmermann | 2003 | Germany | PhD | History & Philosophy of Science | Robinson College |
| Mr Robert Tonita | 2005 | Canada | PhD | Engineering | Hughes Hall |
| Dr Christopher Tooley | 2002 | New Zealand | PhD | Education | Girton College |
| Dr Olga Tribulato | 2001 | Italy | PhD | Classics | Pembroke College |
| Dr Deepti Trivedi | 2003 | India | PhD | Molecular Genetics | Churchill College |
| Mr Petri Tuomola | 2003 | Finland | MPhil | Finance | Queens' College |
| Ms Marina Turlakova | 2007 | Kyrgyzstan | MPhil | Economics | Trinity College |
| Ms Tatiana Tzouli | 2002 | Greece | PhD | Economics | Pembroke College |
| Mr Murali Vadvilu | 2002 | India | PhD | Protein Engineering | St John's College |
| Mr Andres Vallejo | 2001 | Ecuador | PhD | Geography | Churchill College |
| Dr Nicole Van Der Laak | 2003 | New Zealand | PhD | Materials Science & Metallurgy | Clare Hall |
| Ms Sarah van Mastrigt | 2004 | Canada | PhD | Criminological Research | Magdalene College |
| Mr Peterjan Van Nieuwenhuizen | 2001 | Netherlands | BAff | Mathematics | Pembroke College |
| Mr Thomas Verklek | 2001 | USA | MPhil | Environment & Development | Churchill College |
| Mr Marko Velic | 2001 | Croatia | PhD | Physics | Churchill College |
| Ms Julie-Ann Vickers | 2002 | Australia | PhD | History | Clare Hall |
| Mr George Vogiatzis | 2002 | Greece | PhD | Engineering | Trinity College |
| Ms Noreen Von Cramon-Taubadel | 2004 | Ireland | PhD | Biological Anthropology | St John's College |
| Miss Marissa Wagner | 2002 | USA | MPhil | Biological Science | Hughes Hall |
| Dr Cara Wall | 2001 | USA | PhD | Biological Anthropology | St Edmund's College |
| Dr Darragh Walsh | 2001 | Ireland | CASM | Mathematics | St John's College |
| Mr Patrice Wan Hok Chee | 2001 | Mauritius | MPhil | Finance | Trinity College |
| Dr Yalan Wang | 2002 | China | PhD | Engineering | Christ's College |
| Mr Caleb Ward | 2003 | New Zealand | BAff | Medicine | Corpus Christi College |
| Mr Jeremiah Watth | 2002 | USA | MSc | Physics | Peterhouse |
| Ms Anke Weber | 2005 | Germany | PhD | Economics | Emmanuel College |
| Mr Aaron Weinstock | 2004 | Australia | MPhil | Philosophy | Trinity College |
| Ms Rebecca Wexler | 2005 | USA | MPhil | History & Philosophy of Science & Medicine | Wolfson College |
| Mr Wim Weymans | 2001 | Belgium | PhD | Political Thought | Gonville & Caius College |
| Dr Rochana Wickramasinghe | 2002 | Australia | PhD | Oncology | Trinity College |
| Dr Greg Williams | 2001 | USA | PhD | Chemistry | Churchill College |
| Mr Jason Williams | 2002 | USA | PhD | Engineering | Churchill College |
| Mr Hunter Williams | 2007 | USA | MPhil | Oriental Studies | St John's College |
| Mr Daniel Williams | 2007 | Zimbabwe | MPhil | English Studies | Magdalene College |
| Mr Joel Willis | 2001 | USA | MPhil | Criminological Research | Darwin College |
| Mr Jeffrey Witsoe | 2001 | USA | PhD | Social Anthropology | Clare Hall |
| Mr Mattias Wohlfarth | 2001 | Germany | PhD | Theoretical Physics | Trinity College |
| Miss Julia Wolter | 2003 | Germany | PhD | Mathematics | Clare College |
| Miss Katherine Wong | 2004 | USA | MPhil | Advanced Chemical Engineering Practice | St Catharine's College |
| Ms Melanie Wood | 2003 | USA | CASM | Mathematics | Trinity College |
| Mr Shane Woods | 2004 | Canada | PhD | Genetics | Hughes Hall |
| Ms Anke Wurzbacher | 2002 | Germany | PhD | Land Economy | Darwin College |
| Dr Tatyana Yakovleva | 2003 | USA | PhD | Biological Science | Churchill College |
| Miss Ju-Huei Yang | 2001 | Taiwan | PhD | Economics | Trinity College |
| Dr Zhongqiang Yang | 2003 | China | PhD | Chemistry | Gonville & Caius College |
| Mr Charles Yartey | 2002 | Ghana | PhD | Economics | Hughes Hall |
| Ms Joanna Yeo | 2006 | Singapore | MPhil | International Relations | Trinity College |
| Ms Margaret Young | 2003 | Australia | PhD | Law | King's College |
| Mr Jimin Yu | 2002 | China | PhD | Earth Sciences | Magdalene College |
| Miss Rida Zaidi | 2002 | Pakistan | PhD | Economics | Wolfson College |
| Ms Inna Zakharевич | 2006 | USA | CASM | Mathematics | Trinity College |
| Ms Jana Zauamseil | 2003 | Germany | PhD | Physics | St John's College |
| Ms Lauren Zeits | 2006 | USA | MPhil | Medical Genetics | Churchill College |
| Mr Ning Zhang | 2003 | China | PhD | Physics | Selwyn College |
| Miss Yingpin Zheng | 2001 | China | PhD | Management Studies | Lucy Cavendish College |
| Ms Xiaomin Zhu | 2005 | China | PhD | Engineering | Magdalene College |
| Mr David Zipper | 2002 | USA | MPhil | Planning, Growth & Regeneration | Queens' College |
| Mr James Zou | 2007 | USA | CASM | Applied Mathematics | Jesus College |
| Mr Benjamin Zwiebel | 2001 | USA | CASM | Mathematics | Churchill College |
The following Gates Scholars have received approval from the Board of Graduate Studies for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy during 2007–2008:

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<th>First Name</th>
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