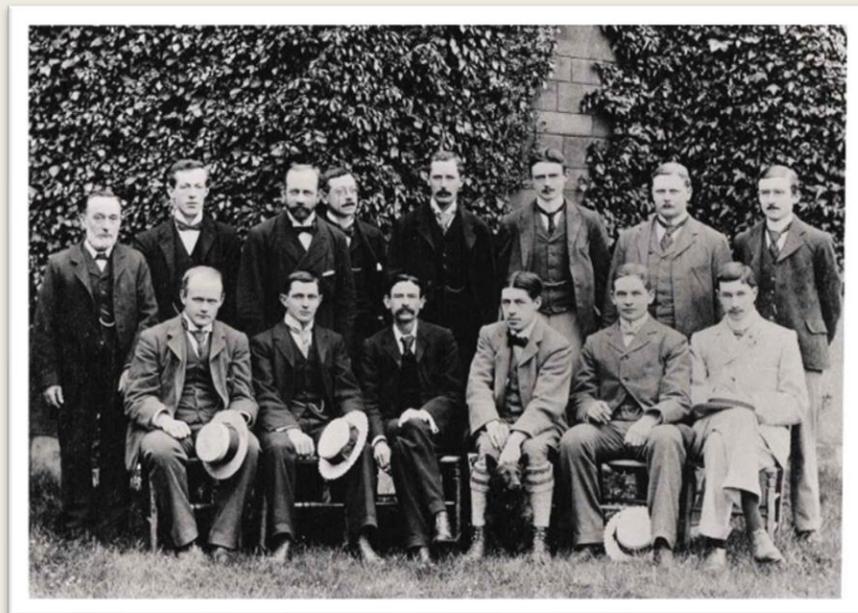


Oxford University Scientific Society

Established in 1882, the OUSS is the oldest student-run society for the Natural Sciences in the English-speaking world

Information Booklet for Sponsors and Benefactors

Our Past



The Oxford University Scientific Society (then the Junior Scientific Club) is fortunate to have had prominent scientists such as Nevil Sidgwick (bottom left in the picture), Fredrick Soddy (front row, second to the right), Henry Moseley, Julian Huxley, and J B S Haldane (not in the picture) as its president during their undergraduate years.

Image: *Photo of the Oxford University Junior Scientific Club's steering committee, 1898*. Source: Museum of the History of Science, Oxford.

The Oxford University Scientific Society was founded in 1882 as the Oxford University Junior Scientific Club by a group of undergraduates. The objective of the Club was the bringing together of undergraduate and graduate members of the University for the discussion of scientific matters.

The University of Oxford just only started to formally award degrees for the study of the natural sciences in the latter half of the nineteenth century, and throughout the early introductory years teaching quality was generally poor. The creation of the Junior Scientific Club aimed to organise activities which

stimulated research and scientific discussion amongst its members. It is this proactivity that allowed the club to capture more than 80% of the University's science undergraduates within a year of its foundation.

At the time, the Club organised fortnightly 'ordinary meetings' for members to present research papers of their own, occasional 'special meetings' where established scientists spoke to members of the Club, and annual 'Boyle Lectures' where the most eminent scientific personalities of the time were invited to speak to the members. Henry Acland, William Ramsay, and Lord Kelvin are amongst the list of people who have addressed the Club as guest speakers at the Boyle Lectures.

The club also organised biennial *conversazioni*, which was instrumental to the publicising of science in Oxford from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. These were jamborees hosted around the Pitts River Museum area which were attended by over 1000 people from the university and the city alike. A plethora of lectures were given on interesting scientific topics such as "the properties of gyroscopes" and "blood circulation in a tadpole's tail".

Our Present



(from left to right) Matthew Raybould (VP 2019-20), Deepanshu Singh (President 2019-20), Anka Lucic (Treasurer 2019-20)
Image: Photo of senior committee members at the Michaelmas Term Fresher's Fair, 2019.

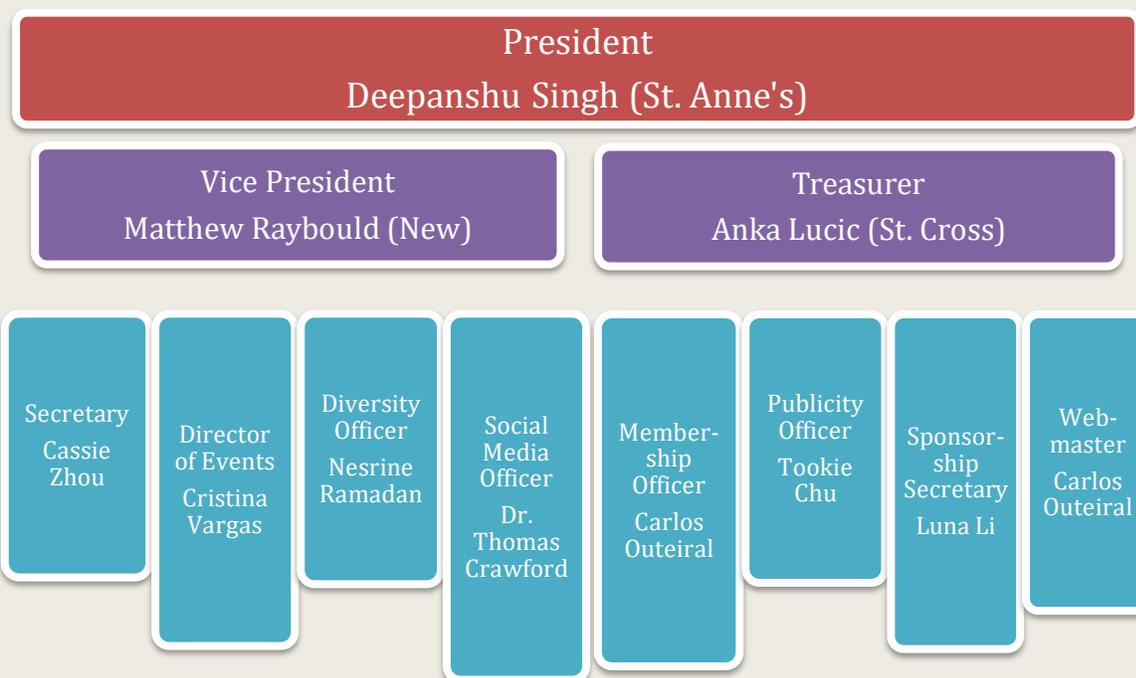
Nowadays, the then Junior Scientific Club is known as the Oxford University Scientific Society. Needless to say, much has changed in the past 138 years, but the OUSS has retained its "special meetings"-ethos: the committee invites scientists to give lectures on their research work, or more generally about their field of interest, on a weekly basis during term-time. Many of our speakers are Principal Investigators at the University of Oxford, but an increasing number come from diverse international academic institutions and the wider global scientific industry.

In the past few years, the OUSS have hosted hundreds of speakers in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, computer science, engineering, and science communication, 18 of which were Nobel Prize winners. Some of our most popular talks have included “Old Solvents: New Solutions?” by Sir Martyn Poliakoff, “Are we Seeing Signals from before the Big Bang?” by Sir Roger Penrose, and “The Secret of Cell Division” by Sir Tim Hunt. In addition, we have organized high profile debates in the Sheldonian Theatre, including “This House Wants to Defeat Ageing Entirely” and “This House Believes Hormones, not Calories, Makes us Fat”, as well as a panel discussion titled “The Geek Manifesto - Why Science Matters”. On occasion, we also organize visits to research facilities such as the Joint European Torus, the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, and the Royal Observatory. Records of our events, including video recordings of a selection talks given in the past few years, can be found on our website, www.ouscisoc.org, or our YouTube channel @Oxford University Scientific Society.

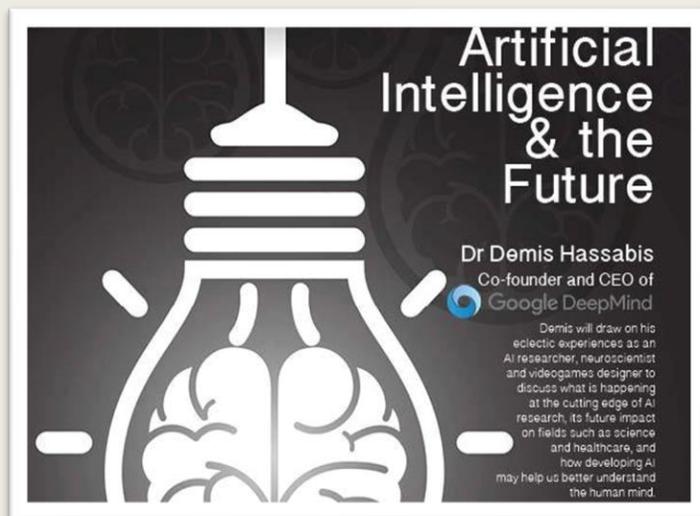
The OUSS also maintains a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/OUSciSoc/>) where a dedicated member of the committee regularly posts about our events and shares multimedia content about the latest breakthroughs in science/technology or simply fun scientific facts. The OUSS committee is proud to note that this page more than 200,000 followers recently, and we expect this count to continue to increase in the years to come.

In addition to speaker events, the committee hosts social and careers events to foster an interdisciplinary scientific community within the university. We believe this social aspect to our society to be just as important as our lecture series, facilitating working relationships and friendships that will stand the test of time. Increasing the frequency of social events is a focus for this year’s committee.

The OUSS Committee



Our Future



Picture from our Facebook page

The OUSS committee will continue to invite the best and brightest speakers from academia and industry. Due to the recent Coronavirus outbreak many of the booked events during Trinity Term have been moved online or postponed until Michaelmas (Oct-Dec 2020). Nevertheless, the list of confirmed future speakers includes Professor Dame Kay Davies (on Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy), Professor Volker Deringer (on AI approaches to chemical synthesis), Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell (on X-Ray Astronomy), Professor Dame Athene Donald (on Polymer Physics), and Professor Christl Donnelly (on Epidemiology and Coronavirus).

One ambition that unites the committee in this coming year revolves around reaching out to as many students, alumni, academic staff and industrial connections as possible. Specifically, we will continue to record and upload high definition video of our talks to our YouTube channel, post updates on our Facebook page, and the committee is working hard to establish a structured networking database that covers the entirety of the society's sphere of influence. This network will enable us to thrive as a student society in the years to come.

Supporting Us

Running the Oxford University Scientific Society to a level befitting the society's heritage is costly. We are partly self-funded through membership subscription fees, however external financial support enables us to extend invitations to prominent international guest speakers, subsidises the cost of our events and membership to increase accessibility, and allows the committee a wider scope to deliver more diverse and professionally administered events.

The OUSS committee has categorised the ways in which you can support our society below:

1. Event Sponsorship

Event sponsorship constitutes the engagement of a one-time partnership with our society with respect to a specific event. The sponsorship of an event in our society can take one of two forms:

- You find that an existing event (lecture, social/networking event, careers event, etc.) scheduled in our term card matches the objectives of your organization well, and you wish to support the running of that event (e.g. improved catering, upgraded venue)
- You wish to propose an event of a specific nature to be organised by our society, and financially commit to supporting its planning and organization

Such one-time sponsorship contributions have an approximate value of £200-500, depending on the cost to rent out the venue, providing travel and accommodation expenses for the speaker and providing refreshments to attendees. In return for your generous support, your organisation's logo will be prominently associated with all online and printed publicity material produced for the discussed event. Your organisation's status as event sponsor will also be clearly announced at the start of the event, which can be recorded and/or live streamed.

The OUSS committee is always happy to tailor aspects of the sponsored event to suit bespoke needs should this be desired by your organisation.

2. Society Sponsorship

Society Sponsorships with the OUSS work as an initial one-year fixed subscription (three evenly-spaced payments coinciding with the start of each Academic Term), converting to a termly-rolling arrangement. The package tiers we offer are listed in the *Appendix* at the end of this document.

The tiered packages simplify the process of contracting a sponsorship. Should you find that these prescribed packages do not suit your expectation, the OUSS committee is happy to negotiate a bespoke arrangement that serves your organisation best.

3. Philanthropic Donations

Donations to the OUSS are always highly appreciated and the committee promises to all our benefactors that any donations you kindly offer us will be put to good use. If this is an option you are considering, please visit our website (<https://ouscisoc.org/>), click 'Donations' tab, and follow further instructions displayed. Upon donating, you will have the option to be added to our database of benefactors, enabling you to receive specific updates about work the OUSS committee have done using your donation.

At the Oxford University Scientific Society, we truly value the generosity of our sponsors. Your contributions allow us to share the science we are passionate about and facilitate connections within our extensive sphere of influence. Both of these, we firmly believe, drive the scientific innovations and discoveries of the future.

On behalf of all members of the OUSS, we thank you for your kind consideration, and hope that you will be encouraged to support us as we adapt to serving our scientific community.

Luna Li
Sponsorship Secretary of the OUSS

May 2020

Appendix --- Termly Sponsorship Tiers

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Sponsorship Benefit	Bronze (£300 per term)	Silver (£500 per term)	Gold (£1000 per term)	Platinum (£1882 per term)
Logo appears on publicity material for any event	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo displayed on sponsorship page	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo appear on term card and weekly newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Circulation of advert in newsletter/facebook page		Once per term	Twice times per term	Three times per term
Post lecture dinner tickets		One entry per term	Two entries per term	Three entries per term
Printed advert dispensed at talks			✓	✓
Banner displayed at events			✓	✓
Merchandise handed out during events				✓
Bespoke, tailored events				✓
Invitation to all careers event	✓	✓	✓	✓
Termly summary newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓

