Supporting the College’s Endowment

The principal goal of Queens’ College is to provide a first class educational and research environment for undergraduates, graduate students and Fellows alike.

As one of the oldest and largest Cambridge Colleges, Queens’ has benefitted from centuries of philanthropic generosity. The best way of securing the future of Queens’ is by supporting the Endowment. The Endowment is the ring-fenced capital invested to provide an annual interest return that the College can depend on for running and maintenance costs. Unfortunately, for a College of Queens’ size, the Endowment is not large enough to produce sufficient income to fund all collegiate needs.

The interest from the Queens’ Endowment underpins all activity vital to the College (ie. the costs of the Fellowship, students, building maintenance, accommodation and staff). The cost of educating our students outweighs the income received from fees; the income generated from the Endowment is fundamental to meeting this shortfall.

The College Endowment now sits at £69 million, which generates an annual return of over £2 million. This return is crucial in helping us run the College; however, Queens’ costs c£111 million annually to run. The amount of income produced by our Endowment only covers c17% of annual expenses, whereas many other Cambridge college Endowments generate at least 50%. This restricts Queens’ ability to invest in the future, in terms of intellectual assets, student provision and physical assets. Our long-term aim is to grow Queens’ Endowment to £120 million to protect future generations of students.

Who benefits?

The principal beneficiaries of the Endowment are our students. The total cost of educating 494 undergraduates, 400 graduate students and funding research came to £5,729,195 in the last financial year; after academic fee income, the Colleges is left with an educational deficit of c40% that the College must fund from its own resources. The College subsidises each individual student by an average of roughly £4,100 annually per undergraduate. This is funded entirely from the Endowment and is an indication of the level of financial commitment Queens’ continues to make to support education. We will not compromise on the Cambridge education we can offer.
Gifts to the Endowment

Gifts to the Endowment are very welcome, especially if designated to the College’s Annual Fund, where the income generated is used to meet the most pressing needs of the College as gauged by the President and Fellows.

Benefactions for specific purposes are also enormously welcome and the College will use such gifts in accordance with the donors’ wishes wherever possible. Donors of named funds receive reports on the individuals or projects supported by the fund as applicable. Substantial gifts can be named, with respect to buildings, room naming, studentships, and fellowships.

Queens’ fundraising priorities are as follows:

1) **Academic posts** – supporting research and teaching roles.

2) **Student support** – increasing the availability of bursaries and financial aid as well as travel awards and prizes to help undergraduate and graduate students finance their studies.

3) **Access to education** – funding outreach initiatives (in our allocated areas) to engage and motivate learners from low participation backgrounds who have the potential to succeed at Queens’.

4) **Student experience** – investing in a College’s cultural life such as clubs and societies, choirs and sports.

5) **College environment** – maintaining historic buildings and creating new facilities and iconic buildings which provide the best possible spaces for student life and learning.

*At the right level of funding, and in agreement between donor and College, naming opportunities are available for Endowment support at Queens’.*