



**G15** GORTON  
COLLEGE



*'We strongly object to a beginning made on a small scale...[it] would be a hindrance rather than a furtherance of the great scheme... Everyone concerned should be roused to understand that a great campaign has to be victualled for.'*

ME Lewes 1867 Pen Name George Eliot

## The Great Scheme

Girton is built on philanthropy – a tradition that has flourished for nearly 150 years. It has brought 'The Great Scheme' of excellence in diversity to life and enabled just over 14,000 young people to date to embark on a life-changing educational adventure.

This tradition has not, however, endured quite long enough to build the permanent endowment to a level commensurate with our needs, or our ambition. To address this, the aim of A Great Campaign, started in 2010, is to place Girton College on a sustainable financial footing for the first time since its foundation.

Invested as permanent endowment capital, the original gift remains unspent, but the investment income it generates is used to support the charitable purposes of the College in perpetuity. Through reinvestment of a portion of the total return each year the value of the capital is preserved, whilst the remainder helps to fund the College's educational, residential, and running costs.

This is the Cambridge model and it is what the College needs to continue delivering a world class education, respond creatively to the future, and meet the aims of a strategic plan anchored on widening participation, engendering excellence and supporting all round personal development.

## Our Challenge

Measured by the excellence of its scholars, the qualities of its community and the warmth of its alumni, Girton may be one of the richest Colleges in the world. Financially, however, Girton's endowment is young, and therefore small on a per student basis compared with that of many other Cambridge colleges.

It all began with gifts of £4000 (already £46,000 short of Emily Davies' ideal); in 2016, at the halfway stage of the Campaign, with £12.5 million of donation income already received, the permanent endowment stood at £40.4 million. In 2022 with your help, when the campaign is complete, our aim is to achieve an endowment of £52.5 million. A Great Campaign also aims to raise an additional £25 million by 2022 in legacy pledges from living alumni which will come to fruition in years to come in support of the College.

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Growing the endowment is essential because Girton supports a large, vibrant, student community spanning nearly every subject in the University. Yet there is, for home undergraduate students, a gap of as much as 50% between fee income and the true cost of delivering the bespoke, collegiate model of education that makes Cambridge outstanding academically. This is without taking into account the added value for every student that is packaged into Girton's unique residential educational experience, from sports to music and the arts, from transferable skills to civic engagement.

College endowments are designed to bridge this funding gap; it is essential that they are large enough to do so. A Great Campaign will achieve this for Girton. It will deliver a step-change in financial wellbeing that will be transformative for the College. To that end, we invite you to help build the endowment to improve the lives of generations of students to come.

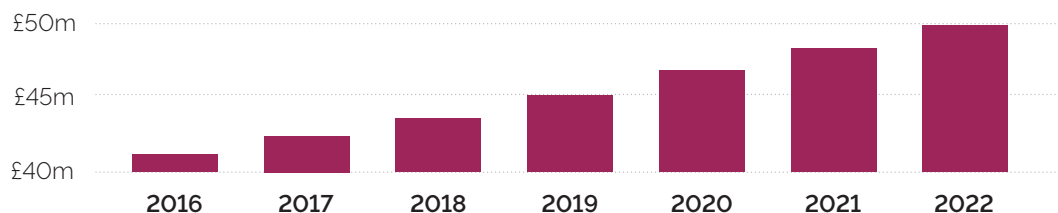
## How can you, our alumni, make the difference?

The first phase of A Great Campaign has brought us half way to our target with over £25 million raised in donations (of which half are legacy pledges). The income from these gifts is already supporting students, promoting teaching and research excellence, inspiring initiatives in the library, archive and special collections, and improving the residential environment.

During the first stage of A Great Campaign, the College's permanent endowment increased thanks to generous gifts and other income to both unrestricted and restricted areas of support, growing from £22 million in 2010 to £40.4 million in 2016.

Our report "Girton College: a radical vision for learning" details the impact of your gifts from 2010-2016.

Accumulated impact of projected donations\* to the endowment during 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary stage of A Great Campaign



\* excluding investment returns

True to the pioneering spirit on which the College was founded, the 'Great Scheme' that is Girton will thus continue to thrive, thanks to the generosity of those in our community who join this ambitious campaign.

**Help us underpin all aspects of the college in perpetuity to ensure that Girton thrives for the next 150 years**

# Where Diversity Thrives

GIRTON COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



*"From its foundation in 1869 as the UK's first residential higher education institution for women, Girton College has been at the forefront of widening participation. Its foundational aim has been extended in recent years to ensure that all who have sufficient ability and potential to secure a place can do so, irrespective of where they come from, or what their pathway to university has been."*

The Rt Hon the Baroness Hale of  
Richmond, DBE PC, (Law 1963)

Deputy President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom  
Girton College Visitor

## Widening participation

Girton is a place where ordinary people do extraordinary things. The College was founded on a novel and — in those times — surprising idea of inclusion and today we still hold true to the vision of our founder, Emily Davies. Girton thrives on excellence in diversity and provides a truly transformative all-round university education. We work hard to ensure that Girton is a gateway to Cambridge, providing the very best young people with an opportunity to study here, irrespective of background or financial circumstances.

## Our Challenge

The challenge for each undergraduate should be one of intellect, but increasingly the financial barrier poses the greater problem, both practically and psychologically. The

prospect of substantial debt after graduation and the high cost of living in Cambridge may even deter good students from applying. Currently, Government loans barely cover living costs and the maintenance grant has been withdrawn.

In spite of this, students from the state and maintained sector make up nearly 70% of Girton's home student intake, compared with a Cambridge average of 62%. Diversity is important to us: of 497 undergraduates, 125 are from 38 different nationalities and 97 are from ethnic minority communities. At 22%, this latter figure compares well with a national average of 16%.

Our outreach programme is leading the way in widening participation by encouraging applicants from all walks of life to apply to Cambridge. Our programme involves around 300 young people in masterclasses, provides support with applications, and offers interview coaching and visits to the College.



There are three key challenges:

Firstly, all our students whose household incomes fall below a certain threshold are eligible for a Cambridge bursary. It is essential to raise funds to meet our commitment to the Cambridge-wide Bursary Scheme to ensure that access to Girton's extraordinary education is possible for all who are academically gifted.

Secondly, the unique bespoke education that all Cambridge students enjoy is expensive; only about half the cost for home students is covered by fees. The real cost of a Cambridge education is estimated to be £18,000 per year for an undergraduate, double that of the UK Government fee cap. The difference is met by the College in partnership with the University; so every undergraduate place at Girton is subsidised (effectively, there is a 50% contribution to costs).

Thirdly, there is so much more to a Girton education than becoming an expert in a specialist subject. The value-added to every degree by activities that add breadth to depth, by attention to life skills, and by unparalleled attention to wellbeing, is something that money cannot buy. But it is costly to provide.

All of these need A Great Campaign to grow the endowment capital and that is where you come in.

## **How can you, our alumni, make the difference?**

The College currently contributes to the Cambridge Bursary Scheme from which 150 of our undergraduate students – one in four of our student body who would otherwise find University unaffordable – receive bursaries. The need is now so great that funding this bursary commitment is a major aim for the next phase of A Great Campaign. Therefore we plan to grow the Emily Davies Bursary Fund to support a further 20 full bursary places across all subjects. Each bursary award, which supports an individual's living costs, is means-tested and subject to annual review. The cost to fund one full bursary in perpetuity is £87,500.

A donation to the Emily Davies Bursary Fund could be a deciding factor for a truly outstanding student who has received an offer from Girton; it might transform their life. If you have benefited from your time at Girton, and would like others to do the same, please consider supporting this scheme. You can invest in the next generation of undergraduates with a gift of any size, which may be spread over several years.

## **Keep diversity thriving at Girton for the next 150 years**

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# Where Originality Thrives

GIRTON COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



*"The University's expansion into North West Cambridge and Girton's position at the centre of that development presents us with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a "Graduate Girton" that is a magnet for students from all over the world... Girton will become the collegiate corner-stone of North West Cambridge, embarking on a new and exciting chapter in its history, in the midst of a visionary urban-academic quarter at the heart of Europe's most rapidly expanding region."*

Professor Susan J. Smith, FBA  
Mistress of Girton College

## Growing the Graduate School

Girton plans to grow its graduate school to advance the University's strategic plan and to balance the College overall, creating parity with undergraduate numbers by 2023.

The reason is simple. Research is crucial for understanding and solving the complex problems of our world today. Higher degrees have also become a pre-requisite for successful entry to many parts of the business world. Never has demand for highly skilled postgraduates from top-ranking academic institutions, like the University of Cambridge, been so strong.

So we are improving and enlarging our graduate offer and taking a stake in the largest single capital project ever undertaken by the University. A five-minute cycle ride from the main College site, our new flagship facility at Swirles Court is a state-of-the art purpose-built postgraduate complex containing 325 en-suite study-bedrooms, clustered into houses, with a Porters' Lodge, social area, study space and gardens.



## Our Challenge

There is limited funding for postgraduate education in the UK, and even less to support international students. This is frustrating for brilliant students, and a loss to the wider world. To enable the many talented scholars (including some of our own undergraduates) who wish to embrace the challenge of completing a higher degree in Cambridge and at Girton, we need A Great Campaign for graduate education.

## How can you, our alumni, make the difference?

Changes in the size and shape of Cambridge University, and in particular the expansion of postgraduate education, will have potentially transformative implications for Girton. A vital component of the next phase of A Great Campaign — the 150th Anniversary phase — is dedicated to raising funds to support this, including:

- Growing our Graduate Support Fund for individuals. This will provide awards and scholarships to ensure that every graduate student who receives the offer of a place can afford to come to Girton. Otherwise Girton's graduate students will be drawn from a relatively narrow social banding of those who can afford to pay full fees.
- Securing the funds we need as an educational institution to underwrite the academic, research and welfare support needs of the growing graduate community at Swirles Court.

Girton's postgraduate students will be at the cutting edge of research in medicine, science and engineering, and also in the arts, humanities and social sciences. They need your help to thrive in this College, bringing together undergraduates, graduates, postdoctoral scholars and established academics in myriad imaginative ways.

To endow a graduate award of £10,000 a year in perpetuity will cost £250,000. This will cover one quarter of the total costs: it will incentivize excellence, can be used to leverage other awards, and will be a beacon to draw the very best students to Cambridge and to Girton. The University is reaching out to North West Cambridge, and Girton is responding with a unique offer to graduate students throughout the world.

## Support Girton's graduates and help originality thrive to create a better world

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# Where Inspiration Thrives

GIRTON COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



*"The experience of a Cambridge education is that of being taught by the best minds in your field, and having access to the knowledge of renowned academics as supervisors."*

Professor Dame Marilyn Strathern FBA  
Mistress of Girton College 1999-2009.

## Teaching and Research Fellowships

Small group teaching – often only two or three students per session – is what makes Cambridge so special. College Fellows are at the heart of this unique learning experience. Girton has been bold – indeed pioneering – in creating career positions for world-class educators who can go the extra mile to deliver this bespoke style of education. They work alongside colleagues from nearly every department in the University to inspire their students with a passion for learning and the courage to challenge ideas.

An engaged Fellowship is key to nurturing radical thinking amongst successive generations of the world's brightest young minds. Girton Fellows engage in recruitment and admissions, they direct studies, co-ordinate carefully tailored supervisions and attend to the welfare and development of each and every one of our students.

Girton invests in its Fellowship; we hope you will too. That is how the educational adventure that is Girton College will continue to thrive.

## Our Challenge

The supervision system that underpins every Cambridge degree is costly; so is the tutorial support that embodies our ethic of care.

Investment in teaching is paramount, yet fee income falls short of core expenditures. Without philanthropy we are unable to bridge that gap.

Student services, accommodation and heritage buildings and more, are essential ingredients of the residential higher education that this College is proud of. All these add to our financial needs.

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## How can you, our alumni, make a difference?

Girton College runs a prudent operation whose income is thinly stretched. Charitable giving is a way to help uphold our core educational purpose.

Thanks to the generous support of alumni, six Fellowships dedicated to College teaching and research were endowed during the first phase of A Great Campaign at a cost of £10 million: these are in Economics, English, History, Modern and Medieval Languages, Law and Mathematics.

The next step is to endow six further Fellowships, this time in partnership with the University. These will be predominantly in Science subjects, including Clinical and Veterinary Medicine and Natural Sciences. University-linked positions bring distinct benefits to Girton, broadening our profile, linking College and departmental initiatives, enriching our multi-disciplinary teams and strengthening our research-infused teaching environment.

Because funding is shared with Departments, the cost of funding a Fellowship in perpetuity at Girton for a University academic is just £400,000 compared to £1.6 million for a College position.

Gifts towards the endowment for Teaching and Research benefit the core educational purpose of the College, ensuring that every Girton student enjoys an inspiring, challenging, life-changing learning experience.

## Help our Fellowship to thrive and continue to inspire gifted Girton students for another 150 years

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