

Summary of the Alumni Board Meeting on 29 January 2019

The Alumni Board convened at Freshfields in London for their January Meeting. After approving the Minutes from the September meeting, the Board reviewed the Matters Arising and specifically discussed progress made on a number of fronts:

Working Groups

Sourcing Internships for Students (Margaret Jay, Maureen O'Neill and Kwabs Osei-Boateng)

Maureen O'Neill has provided introductions to a number of law firms, Margaret Jay and Kwabs Osei-Boateng met with Jonathan Black and Fiona Woodhouse before the Board meeting to discuss specific areas of need and ways in which they might be able to open doors through their contacts.

Reviewing Alumni Benefits (Lennart Brand, Amanda Pullinger and Jackie Ranawake)

Working Group members took part in an initial survey of benefits currently on offer to alumni, providing valuable perspectives and feedback on their perceived value and the way in which they are presented.

Supporting Alumni Groups (Emma Neale, Laura Hill and Judith Tew)

Members of the Working Group each reached out to local groups in their areas to better understand their needs and challenges.

In the case of each Working Group, their input was greatly appreciated and these groups will continue for the time being.

The Board meeting agenda proceeded with a **discussion of the University's Strategic Plan** and where, specifically, alumni might contribute. The Board agreed that alumni could offer advice, influence and support in the areas of access and outreach, sourcing more funded internships for students, supporting alumni entrepreneurs and deploying an informed alumni community as footsoldiers for the University overall. Following on from the Strategic Plan discussion, the Board heard a **presentation on the University's commitment to Admissions outreach and access** by Samina Khan, the Director of Admissions.

Final topics included an update on the **Alumni Journey Project** (the Board endorsing further exploration with the consulting firm), a discussion of how best to direct **Alumni Board funds** and an overview of **recent news from the University**, delivered by Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr Robert Easton.

The Board's next meeting will be on Monday, 3 June in Oxford.