

Scholarships special

MAY 2005

This month, around 120 students and scholarship donors met for lunch in the Shaw Library. They were there to celebrate the powerful impact which scholarship gifts provided by donors have on individual students' lives.

The School currently offers more than £5 million worth of



Cato Stonex

financial assistance to students every year. This academic year alone, the School was able to award some £1 million in private scholarship support.

The event was organised by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, which co-ordinates fundraising for the Campaign for LSE. From October 2006, LSE will

also spend a third of the additional income it receives from the new £3,000 fee regime on student support.

Cato Stonex (BSc International Relations 1983), governor and a Campaign for LSE committee member, spoke at the lunch. He said: 'Since becoming involved again with the School, I have greatly enjoyed making a difference to students' lives, meeting fellow supporters and getting to know the Director and academic leaders

of the School. I think it is vital that LSE can recruit the best students whatever their background.'

AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS AT LSE

Most scholarships for new undergraduates beginning in 2005 will be closing for application on 27 May. The School's undergraduate support scheme for overseas fee status students in financial need is still open (EU students not eligible).

Applications to a few graduate taught scholarships are still open, ie, the Mercers scholarship for those who have an offer for the Cities Programme MSc City Design and Social Science. The School's graduate support scheme is also open to those who have been awarded a Graduate Merit Award or have been recommended to apply (awarded a recommended Graduate Merit Award) by their selector with their offer.

Applications are also still open to a number of PhD scholarships and the School's research studentships. The closing date for these is 14 June and applications to both are via the department.

For details of what's available, eligibility criteria and application forms, see:

www.lse.ac.uk/collections/studentServicesCentre/financialSupportOffice

Three scholars tell their stories

AMY MORGAN, THIRD YEAR UNDERGRADUATE STUDYING ECONOMICS WITH ECONOMIC HISTORY



I had the great fortune to be awarded a full scholarship, provided by Mr Martin Newson, for my three years here.

As I look back over the last three years I see just how wonderful this scholarship has been. It has allowed me to really study, free from the worries of debt, and it has allowed me to take an active role in LSE life alongside my studies.

I have been a member of the LSE Music Society and Choir for three years. I have also written as a literary critic for our School newspaper and last year I was involved with the LSE student tutoring scheme. I tutored at a secondary school in

Hounslow, helping children for whom English was a second language, and it felt good to be able to give something back. The main aim of the scheme was to promote a positive image of higher education in an attempt to widen access and I was certainly in a position to be a positive advocate of the benefits of higher education, and of the chances of access with my experience of the valuable donations of our generous alumni.

With my undergraduate studies rapidly drawing to a close – too rapidly I feel – I am thinking about the future ahead of me. One thing I can be sure of is that I have a solid foundation to build upon, given to me by the opportunity to study at this world class institution. It provides me with an excellent start to my adult life and for that I am truly grateful.

Thank you is such a very simple thing to say but it is truly heartfelt and it is the most accurate way to describe my feelings. I am genuinely grateful for this wonderful opportunity and I am not sure I will ever have said it enough. I have had an amazing three years at LSE, sometimes difficult but always rewarding. I've done a great deal of my growing up here, at LSE and London in general, and it has been very influential in making me the person I am today.

LAN DAO, BSC STUDENT IN THE ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT



Having a scholarship to go to LSE has been one of the most wonderful things. Without it, I wouldn't have been able to attend LSE for sure.

I came to LSE very shy and mostly academically orientated. LSE has given me the chance to try out many things. I remember my first year trying out aerobics, jazz dance, debating, Chinese, and a whole bunch of other things. I went to the Students' Union meetings, experienced student politics with lots of paper throwing and shouting. In the end I dropped almost all of these, sticking only to badminton, swing dance and Chinese.

But getting involved and getting out of my comfort zone, which is the Library, has helped to build up my confidence and develop many skills. It helped me to be brave enough to organise a Vietnamese show in my second year. We managed to raise £1,600 for charity and I learned to raise sponsorships, work in teams, sell the tickets, organise the show and have the nerve to perform on stage.

I really think that having the chance to get involved in many exciting activities at LSE has helped me to develop a

lot of important skills, hopefully to become a more well rounded person.

While I'm at LSE, apart from academic lectures, I also have the opportunity to listen to many distinguished speakers. My favourite public lectures have been given by Stelios, an LSE alumnus and founder of easyJet, another by a managing director of L'Oreal talking about what makes L'Oreal a success, and another about law regulation and its impact on development. These lectures are a wonderful complement to what I learn. I don't think I would have had opportunities like these had I gone somewhere else.

And all of these would not have happened if not for the scholarship. Sometimes I joke with my friend that, apart from the scholarship, the second best thing that happened to me is that I got rejected from Cambridge three years ago.

I'm so grateful that I have been given the opportunity to be at LSE. But most important of all, I'm extremely grateful for Clive's kindness. Clive has contributed the money for my scholarship. But more important than that, he has become my life mentor. In the summer of my first year, Clive offered me an internship at his company, Kinnerton, a confectionery manufacturing company. Clive has done everything to make sure I learnt as much as possible. Clive made sure that I had the chance to speak to various people who have been in the business, so I can learn. Clive encouraged and in a way put pressure on me to not be shy and, most importantly, to ask questions. I think this is one of the most important things that Clive has taught me. And I learnt enormously by asking and listening. Clive has really been a great mentor, helping to guide me on the right learning track.

I hope, and I am determined, that one day I can give something back to the School because LSE has truly given me so much.

ROBERT MRLJIC, MASTER'S STUDENT IN THE LAW DEPARTMENT

When I applied for a scholarship at LSE more than a year ago, I was almost sure that, notwithstanding the fact that I had received the notification that my application for a master's at LSE was successful, I would not have the opportunity to study at LSE because of financial reasons.

I decided to apply for an LSE scholarship but genuinely I thought that it is not possible that somebody who does not know me personally would really recognise my results, my educational aspirations, and would give me an opportunity to study at LSE for one year.

It is really not possible to describe my positive shock and excitement when I received notification that I had an LSE scholarship. I remember this moment very clearly, and I will remember it, for sure, during my whole life time.

Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude to all School donors, and in my case especially, to the Michael Peacock Charitable Foundation and to Mr Peacock personally, for all the trust they have in us and for the financial help which enables us to accept our offers at LSE.

I would like also to express my gratitude to the School.

The great feeling of being an LSE student started from the first moment I saw the LSE sign on the Aldwych, from that first moment I had a feeling of being a real LSE student and not just a guest.

Finally, I would like to say that the trust and help which has supported me at LSE creates a moral obligation for me to try to help students in a similar way if I can one day. Thank you a lot!

