



University of Essex

Impact Report

2014 – 15

Thank
you
for helping us
change the world

At Essex, philanthropy can mean supporting our education and research, or giving your time to create opportunities for the brightest and the best. Our Alumni, mentor students, and our students and staff volunteer in the community. Whatever form it takes, philanthropy is at the heart of our community. We come together to make a difference in the world.

This University was founded on philanthropy – we are still thriving, thanks to the generosity of others. Our supporters are vital. You are members of our community: staff, students, alumni, local people, corporate organisations and other charities. You want to see bold ideas become reality; want to work with us to break boundaries and challenge convention.

Philanthropy at Essex is about being part of something bigger than yourself. Your support changes students' lives and helps deliver life-changing research. It makes a difference around the world.

Join us.



It has been another very successful year for the University of Essex. We have risen 67 places in the QS World Rankings to reinforce our place in the top 2% of universities in the world. We have been placed in the world's top 10% for international outlook by the Times Higher Education rankings – and rated 35th in the UK by The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide. I am also delighted that for the third year in row we are ranked in the top 10 in the National Student Satisfaction Survey.

We have also had an enormously successful year for philanthropy, which is absolutely key to our success. Philanthropy underpins our aim to extend knowledge by investing in research and research-led teaching. It gives us the space to innovate, to take risks and to challenge conventional thinking. It allows us to offer opportunities to students not just from across the UK, but from the rest of the world – chances in life they might not otherwise have.

And it is not just about research and education. Philanthropy also supports the extra-curricular experience that Essex offers. Much of this would be impossible without your support.

Your generosity has helped us to raise £1.6 million in 2014-15, and many of you have given freely of your time as well. Your advice and expertise are an invaluable resource for today's students, adding to their learning with wisdom from life and creating new opportunities.

Thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy reading about what your generosity has allowed us and our students to achieve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony W. Forster".

Professor Anthony Forster
Vice-Chancellor



Education opposes everything that is wrong in this world. Education is capable of transforming lives. Education is bread for the human mind and water for the human soul and today in the 21st century there are too many people thirsty and starving for education.

In a world where poor people do not have equal opportunities to succeed, philanthropy steps in and brings hope. Philanthropy actually means "love of humanity". Thank you for loving Essex.

Essex transcends cultures, fights prejudice, breaks barriers and strives to improve human lives. Our community brings the whole world to one place, a place that accepts you for who you are while challenging you to become the best you could be. I love Essex myself because at this university I was not just educated, I was also empowered to change the world around me.

I want you to know that your support for our University is greatly appreciated, £1 from your pocket often feels like £100 in someone else's and your kindness is changing lives. So, if you have the possibility to give more than just money, to give hope and to make this world a better place, do it. One day I promise to do the same.

Adrian Chira, President
University of Essex Students' Union

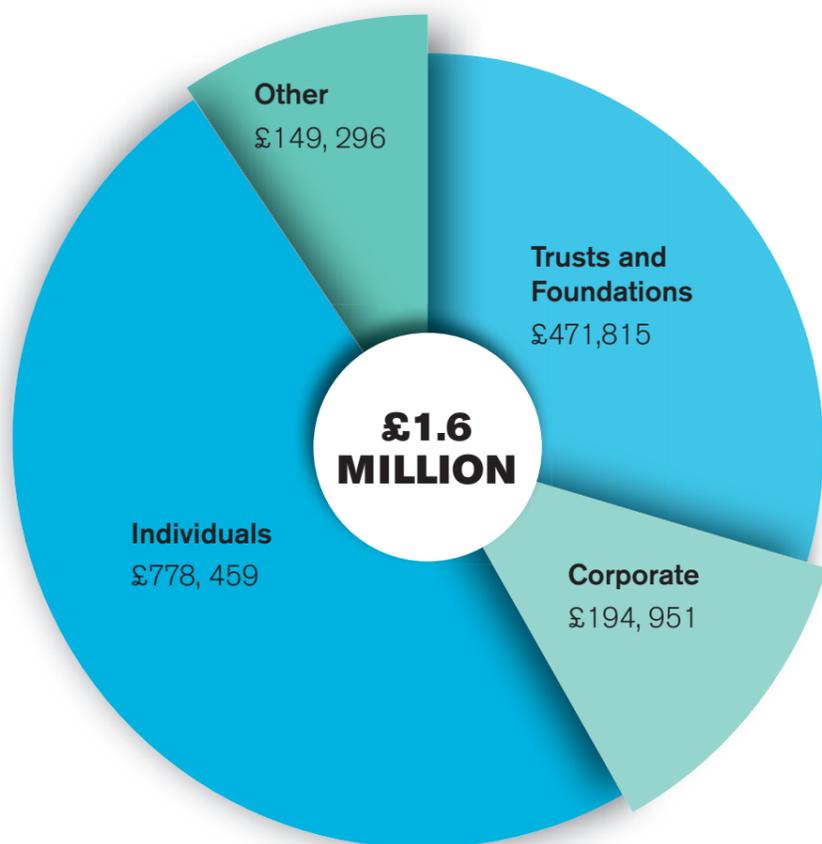


Your support in action

Each year, our students and our staff continue to thrive and excel as a result of the contributions our community makes to support excellent teaching and research at Essex. In 2014/15, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we received £1.6 million in gifts to the University. We received even more in support from our community who gave their time and expertise to help us grow.

Thank you.

Where our donations came from in 2014-15



“My late husband, Paul Townsend worked for the University for 30 years. He was a scientist and a mathematician who absolutely loved Essex and gave his life to it. So when he died, I felt that I wanted his name to go on and therefore, I started the fund to help educate students.”

**Mrs Elizabeth Townsend
Founder – the Dr Paul & Elizabeth Townsend Fund**

“In my opinion, scholarships are a real incentive and motivation for academically gifted students, who need financial support to fulfil the expectations of their professors and know that they can achieve their set targets and more.”

**Beatrix Mett
Donor
BA/MA Languages & Linguistics
(1996/1998)**

Our University is working to change the world and as a member of our community you are both a part of this movement and a philanthropist. These are some of the ways our community have pulled together in the last year:

Every gift counts

From regular monthly sums of £5 to one-off donations of £125,000, gifts of all sizes are making a difference to the University. Monetary gifts of any size support scholarships and research at Essex and with your help, we can do more.

Being a champion

Some of our biggest supporters are our champions. This means, telling your friends, family and other contacts about the work we do at Essex and encouraging them to support us.

Supporting our future

Today's students make our global future. Our supporters have given their time and expertise to support our students to become the best they can be. From providing internships to mentoring students, your help is critical in shaping our future.

A lifelong legacy

Our Silberrad Student Centre is named after the Silberrad family, to mark 50 years of their support for our University. We benefit from those who have remembered us in their wills, supporting scholarships and facilities for future generations.

Scholarships to push intellectual boundaries



350

scholarships awarded to support the brightest and the best minds from around the world.

14

scholarships funded so far by the Women of the Future Appeal.

8

Law Society charity scholarships at our innovative Human Rights Summer School.

100

student delegates supported to participate in the Model United Nations Summit.

A community pulling together



64

new members of our donor community, coming together to help us change the world.

187

alumni volunteers supporting today's students with their time and advice at 26 networking and mentoring events.

4

students from our local community awarded Wivenhoe bursaries.

Dr Chris Nicholson

running a marathon to raise funds for a scholarship to look into refugee care.

A global community

of scholarship recipients from around 50 countries including Great Britain, Mexico, Thailand, Syria, France, Germany, Spain, Turkey, India, Italy, Romania, Colombia, Brazil, Georgia, Serbia, China, Vietnam (Soc. Rep.), Norway, Ghana, Malaysia, Haiti, Angola, Papua New Guinea.

The Essex Spirit



£53.50

in loose change collected and donated by an alumnus who believes every penny counts.

£1.6M

raised this year to support scholarships, research and all the things that make campus life special.

2,000

people including playwrights, performers and audiences, benefited from activities funded at the Lakeside Theatre.

\$200,000

from Open Society Foundations to back powerful new ideas on human rights and drug policy.

4,500

students reached via Essex Fund projects.

12

sports clubs supported by the Essex Fund, reaching almost 900 students.

A partnership

with the High Speed Sustainable Manufacturing Institute to create a scholarship and gain new insights into data.

Creating histories

at the National Trust Bourne Mill, thanks to the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and other partners.

Women of the Future

This is the start of something big

“Almost £300,000 raised within four months of launching the Women of the Future Appeal is an outstanding achievement. It is testament to Essex’s drive to make the world a fairer place. Please continue to lend your support so we can change tomorrow.”

Shami Chakrabarti CBE
Chancellor, University of Essex

Changing lives and communities

Educated, empowered women bring health, greater productivity and brighter prospects for the next generation, not just to their families, but to whole communities. So, Essex wants to offer **25 masters scholarships** to women from places across the world where they normally wouldn't get an opportunity like this – and we're matching every donation, pound for pound.

“I would like to see more women aiming higher in their careers and you can only do that through furthering your education.”

Professor Maria Fasli
Computer Scientist and Data Expert
PhD *Computer Science* (2000)

“A female politician in Bangladesh sends out a very positive and profound message throughout the globe about the political empowerment of women.”

Dr Shirin Chaudhury
Politician and Human Rights Lawyer
PhD *Constitutional Law and Human Rights* (2000)

“Having received University support myself, I'm proud to have helped raise funds for the Women of the Future Appeal.”

Rachel Langley
Student fundraiser and Wivenhoe Bursary Recipient
MSc *Tropical Marine Biology* (2016)



£500,000

is our total target.

“Essex gave me wings to fly – it is an empowering place to study and grow.”

Dr Aisha K Gill
Alumna and women's rights activist



Almost **£300,000**
raised four months after our Appeal launch.

“I'm a **human rights** campaigner, and to me the greatest injustice on the planet is gender injustice, and progress is too slow.”

Shami Chakrabarti CBE



Over **100**
individuals, charities and businesses driving forward change by supporting this Appeal.

“Supporting the **Chancellor's Appeal** has been my way of doing my bit for our collective future.”

Maria Miranda
Student fundraiser and Santander Scholarship Recipient



3
student fundraisers, determined to make the 25 scholarships a reality

Major gifts to transform lives

Amazing things happen when we join together

A bursary to back powerful ideas

The new Dr Philip Hills Award, for postgraduate students in the Department of History, will open doors for young historians. The Award was established by Philip's wife Rachel and their sons Thomas and Matthew, to honour his memory and love for Essex.

“Our history students will benefit immensely from this gift, which will enhance their ability to challenge boundaries, tell compelling stories and offer new insights into our global history. They will have the freedom to find their own voice as historians and for this we are grateful to the Hills family.”

Professor Eddy Higgs
Head of Department of History

Dr Philip Hills joined Essex as a mature student in 1979, graduating with a BA in *History* in 1982. He continued to study in the History Department, and completed a PhD in 1989. During and after his studies, he also taught nineteenth-century English social history until he left in 1997. He was involved in the Local History Centre, took on a role as an external examiner at the University of East Anglia and taught for Cambridge University Extramural Department.



Professor Eddy Higgs and Helen Kemp
(Recipient, Dr Philip Hills Award)

Helping thespians to follow their dreams

William Landymore did not study at Essex, and nor did his late sister, Elizabeth. However, when she died and left him some money, William was determined to immortalise his sister's name and support future generations of talented students.

“Elizabeth was a truly remarkable lady, who apart from her great intelligence was warm, gentle, sensitive, and extremely witty. Knowing that a young lady from Essex will benefit from Elizabeth's generosity and be able to follow her dreams fills me with joy.”

He donated £50,000 to establish the Elizabeth May Florence Mills Award Fund, which will provide an annual scholarship for outstanding acting students. For William, the University's East 15 Acting School was a natural choice of partner. The Fund has already begun awarding scholarships to Essex students and will run for the next 25 years.

Supporting bright minds and brave ideas

An endlessly curious Centre

The University's Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies prides itself on its uniqueness – bringing a clinical approach to understanding the world, and applying that knowledge in society. Ranked in the top ten in the UK, its courses are distinctive in developing not just academic knowledge and intellectual rigour, but also emotional literacy, awareness and resilience.

One committed alumna

Literary expert Leslie Gardner left the Centre in 2008 with a PhD in *Psychoanalytic Studies*, having built a career that included work with the National Theatre and Columbia Pictures. Today, she is the founder and Director of Artellus literary agency, representing writers of history, science, journalism and fiction.

“Our Centre is committed to excellent research and research-led teaching and the Artellus scholarships play a vital role in this. We are proud of Leslie's achievements and her determination to create opportunities for bright ideas to come through, for people to learn, inform and question.”

Professor Renos Papadopoulos
Director, Centre for Trauma, Asylum and Refugees

Enriching new careers

Thanks to Leslie's generosity, Artellus have supported postgraduate scholarships at Essex's Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies since 2008. Every year, at least one scholarship has been awarded to support bright new minds and brave ideas.

