WHY LEAVE A LEGACY TO UNIV?

Legacies are an enormously important source of funds for the College, and one that is increasingly popular among Old Members.

It goes without saying that in preparing a will, an absolute priority is to ensure that the needs of your family and loved ones are met. However, when these provisions are in place, you may feel that a bequest could also be made to Univ. A gift in your will can make a lasting contribution for generations to come, whether it endows scholarships or bursaries for gifted students, helps fund academic posts, or provides new facilities and resources.

“In my modest will everything is left to my nearest and dearest, and Univ falls naturally into that category.”

Anonymous
(1953)
PECUNIARY AND RESIDUARY LEGACIES

Legacies may take a variety of forms, including residuary and pecuniary legacies, and gifts-in-kind. A residuary gift is based on a percentage of your will; it is therefore not necessary to take inflation into account when drawing up the will.

If you would like to leave non-monetary gifts, for example shares, or items of property, we would be grateful if you could discuss these with the College in advance.

For a discussion on your ideas for a legacy, whether for general College purposes or for specific areas of College life, please contact Martha Cass in the Development Office on +44 (0)1865 276 958 or email Martha.Cass@univ.ox.ac.uk. She would be pleased to speak with you or to meet you at your convenience.

“Univ gave me what I needed to embark on a fascinating and successful career. That is why I decided to give something back through a legacy to this marvellous institution, where I spent three very happy years.”

Alun Evans, CMG
(1958, History)
FORMS OF WORDING

UK TAXPAYERS

Below are some phrases which may help you and your legal advisor to draft a clause in your will, to make University College a beneficiary.

The preferred phrase is:

“I bequeath to the Master and Fellows of the College of the Great Hall of the University commonly called University College in the University of Oxford (registered charity number 1141259) the .......... and I further direct that the receipt of the Bursar or other proper officer for the time being of the College shall be a full and sufficient discharge of my trustees.”

Wording for US Taxpayers or Canadian Taxpayers is available via the Development Office website at univ.ox.ac.uk/legacies. Please contact the Univ Development Office by telephone or email if you have any queries.
Philanthropy and Inheritance Tax

You can reduce your overall Inheritance Tax Bill by giving to charity. If your individual estate is worth over £325,000 (threshold at the time of writing) when you die, Inheritance Tax may be due. However, as University College has charitable status under the Second Schedule to the Charities Act 1993, legacy gifts are exempt from Inheritance Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

Additionally, if you leave at least 10% of your net estate to charity, you may qualify to pay Inheritance Tax at a reduced rate of 36% instead of 40%. For more information please visit the HM Revenue & Customs website gov.uk/inheritance-tax-reduced-rate-calculator, or discuss with your solicitor.

Letting Us Know

It is always helpful for the College to know of your legacy intentions. If you would like to keep us informed, please contact Martha Cass in the Development Office on +44 (0)1865 276 958 or email Martha.Cass@univ.ox.ac.uk.

Thank you for considering this important form of giving.

We are grateful for your support.

Charitable Status

University College Oxford is a UK registered charity (no. 1141259)
For the Univ Old Members’ Trust the number is 1137545

“Two things you can do for Univ: one of those is to give, even a small amount, and stand up and be counted; and the second thing everybody can do is put Univ in their will. It costs nothing and I think it’s one of the easiest ways to make a real difference.”

William Reeve
(1991, Engineering, Economics & Management)
US PLANNED GIFTS

Old Members and friends of the College in the US who wish to leave a gift in their wills may do so either through the American Friends of Oxford or directly to the College.

Our contact in AFO is Sheila Barrett, who may be reached at Sheila.Barrett@devoff.ox.ac.uk.

She is happy to advise Old Members who wish to give in this way. However, the IRS recognises the colleges as having bona fide charitable status, so legacies may be made directly to the College.

Please see the College website for recommended wording for US taxpayers: univ.ox.ac.uk/legacies.
“In many ways Univ made me the person I am today. It meant so much to me, and the very least I feel I can do now is to give a little bit back. Through the William of Durham Club connection I would like to continue that legacy.”

Jonathan Earl
(1977, English)
The William of Durham Club, established in 1997, recognises the generosity of those who have made a future provision for Univ in their will. The Club is named after William of Durham, who in 1249 bequeathed a portion of his estate to support scholars in Oxford. This bequest resulted in the foundation of University College. We continue the tradition of legacy giving today, through the William of Durham Club.

Members of the William of Durham Club receive:

- A printed copy of the annual Roll of Donors and the College Record in which members receive special recognition*
- An invitation to an annual special recognition day, including a talk, luncheon and a performance by members of the College
- A William of Durham Club pin

The William of Durham Day takes place in the College every spring, and all members and their guests are invited. The College also invites Old Members who are considering leaving a legacy but who have not yet become members. We hope that you will be able to join us for this well-subscribed event.

*Univ will continue to respect the wishes of Old Members who would prefer to remain anonymous.
“I won’t be alone in recognising that Univ is an extraordinary college. The range of personalities and interests found there, and the interdisciplinary exchange – whether formal or informal – creates a wonderful atmosphere. It’s this diverse and exciting community that I hope to support by remembering Univ in my will.”

Jessica Lazar
(2009, English)