

# Sponsorship Brochure 2008/9



# Introduction

MedSoc has the potential to be the world's leading undergraduate medical society. With your help it will provide high-level academic debate; ensure top-class welfare support; expose students to industry, business and clinical management; raise money for medical charities; help guide students towards postgraduate careers and organise some of the most popular social events at Oxford University.

With Oxford consistently rated as one of the top universities for medicine, MedSoc has access to the best and brightest medical and physiology students in the country, as well as a talented array of chemists, biochemists, engineers and other students.

Indeed a decade ago MedSoc was one of the biggest student societies in Oxford and its events were the envy of non-medics in Oxford as well as medics who visited from other universities. Sadly a period of decline set in\* which we are now determined to reverse.

We have given ourselves a year to put MedSoc on a sound financial footing, to have excellent governance and a lasting constitution, an efficient administration, a professional relationship with the university, to provide unparalleled levels of welfare services to our members and to put on world-class medical, scientific and bioethical discussions and debates.

\* In the 1990s MedSoc was the victim of a crime which bankrupted it. From being one of Oxford's most successful student societies it was dissolved and lay dormant until it was resurrected two years ago. It has now regained a membership of more than 90% of medical undergraduates but uniquely among Oxford societies of its size lacks sponsorship of any form.

# Sponsorship

We hope to interest you in sharing our ambitions.

MedSoc would like to be part of your plans for corporate social responsibility in the coming year but we can also provide opportunities for commercial benefit.

We can offer publicity and access to our membership, and we seek to create relationships in which we can learn from your corporate experience and through which we can jointly stage top class intellectual dialogue.

We are also open to your own suggestions. You could invite students to your events, involve our members in research and trials, and add them to your database.

MedSoc relies on membership fees alone and does not receive funding from any other source. Consequently, our first external sponsorship can be very influential. You might like to offer generic backing, or support for individual services or events.

We have set out our aims – and we hope your opportunities – under three headings: general, academic and social.

## General

We want MedSoc to be the most professional and best run society of its type, and would be grateful for financial help and management advice.

We distribute Freshers' Packs to all new medical students. We can display your logo and message or incorporate a leaflet.

We will have a stall at the Freshers' Fair which will be viewed by every new student of Oxford University.

We provide membership cards and can again incorporate your logo or strap-line.

We are revamping our website, [www.medsoc.co.uk](http://www.medsoc.co.uk) and can provide links to your website.

We will be providing Oxford MedSoc branded clothing to students, upon which we can have your logo.

## Academic

Oxford University is privileged in attracting some of the finest academics and speakers in the world. The Oxford Union (with whom we have close ties) is world-renowned. Just as Oxford plays host to highly publicised events in the realms of politics, science and economics so, with your help, MedSoc wants to stage some of the world's most important and influential medical meetings and debates, taking advantage of Oxford's enviable academic and industrial links.

One of our plans is to stage a 'Meeting of Great Minds'. We would invite at least three thought-leaders to take part in a professionally moderated but informal conversation in front of a wide audience, exploring great issues and controversies

in clinical practice, healthcare research, medical funding and bioethics. We would hope to involve you throughout the planning and staging of this debate, discussing with you how ambitious we should be and to what extent you would be willing to underpin it.

Depending on your interests MedSoc could mount an eye-catching lecture series aimed either at medical students or at a wider audience.

We will be sending a weekly newsletter by email to all MedSoc members – and perhaps to all medical students – drawing attention to significant medical developments, as well as opportunities for work experience and volunteering. The scale and sophistication of the newsletter will depend on your support. Again we can offer web links and inclusion of your material. We would need to reach agreement on an editorial approach that is best both for you and for MedSoc.

## Social

Some student societies have benefactors who specifically help with welfare and social events which are core to engaging their membership. We need to compete head-on. In the past two years our low-budget 'Entz' have proved extremely popular, featuring prominently in the calendars of our members, as well as being attended by a large proportion of non-medics. But they have fallen some way short of our rivals. Whereas they subsidise their events, we have had to run them at a profit so that we can continue to exist. We hope you will help us break out of this hand-to-mouth existence.

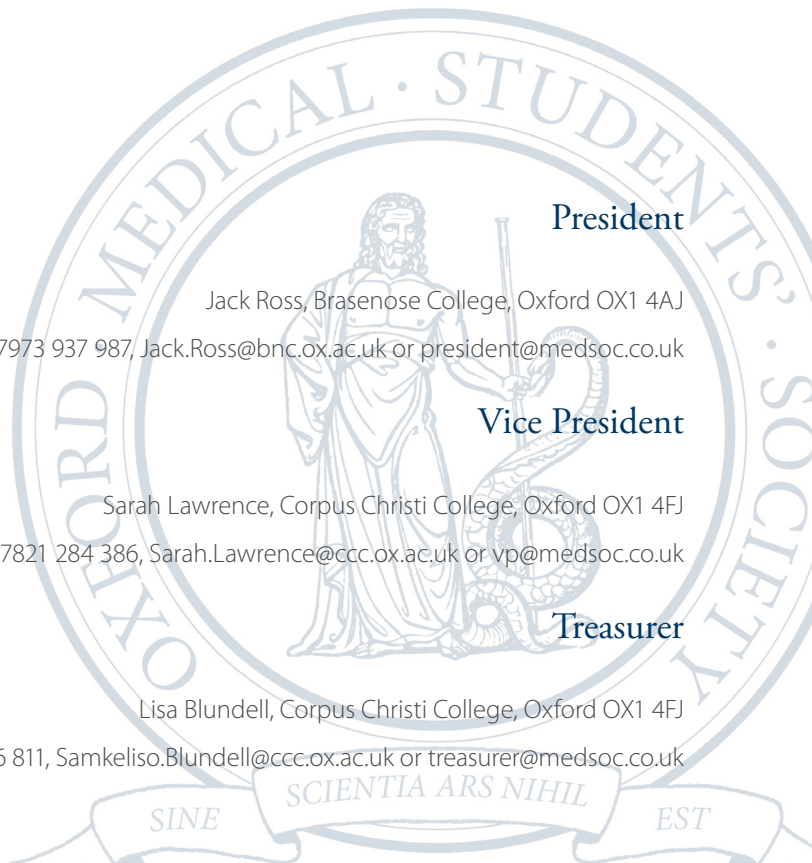
Your involvement could ensure exposure throughout the student community and would provide an opportunity to present directly to Oxford medics.

MedSoc social events currently include:

- A traditional annual Christmas MedSoc ball with 200+ attendees. The cost is around £10,000, some of which we would recover through ticket sales.
- The popular Halloween Party to be held in Oxford Town Hall with 500+ attendees. Depending on how grand we make this, it will cost £5,000-£10,000.
- Charity events, including 'Raise-And-Give' week.
- At least 3 social events per term, including the themed 'Dissection Drinks' cocktails to welcome medic Freshers, and a '5th Week Blues' party to relieve home-sickness and exam stress midway through each term. We also have summer picnics, club nights and themed parties. Some of these are self-financing; those that are not cost from £500 to £2,000, some of which can be recovered through an entrance fee.

One idea we're very keen on would be to hold the Christmas MedSoc ball as a charity ball, where if you would be willing to cover the expenses for the ball, the money gained from the ticket sales can be donated to a medical charity.

Obviously we can discuss with you how we can reciprocate your generosity, but certainly it could include giving an event your name and providing a platform for you to communicate directly to students and to graduates, perhaps with a brief introductory talk.



## **President**

Jack Ross, Brasenose College, Oxford OX1 4AJ  
07973 937 987, Jack.Ross@bnc.ox.ac.uk or president@medsoc.co.uk

## **Vice President**

Sarah Lawrence, Corpus Christi College, Oxford OX1 4FJ  
07821 284 386, Sarah.Lawrence@ccc.ox.ac.uk or vp@medsoc.co.uk

## **Treasurer**

Lisa Blundell, Corpus Christi College, Oxford OX1 4FJ  
07738 066 811, Samkeliso.Blundell@ccc.ox.ac.uk or treasurer@medsoc.co.uk