YOUR GIFTS ARE CHANGING LIVES

Find out how inside...
A YEAR in giving

Your gifts, no matter what size, make a real impact on campus and beyond. This map demonstrates some of the ways your gifts to the Innovation and Immediate Impact Programme have made a difference this year. Thank you for your support.

Thank you

If it wasn’t for the generous donations of alumni and supporters like you, I wouldn’t be where I am today, following in your footsteps at the University of Birmingham. The Access to Birmingham (ATB) scheme has changed my life. The thought that there was someone out there who was willing to invest in a guy like me is overwhelming. This time last year, my mum was really ill and I was looking after my little brother, the house and studying. University seemed like a distant dream. But thanks to your generosity, I was able to continue in education and hope to make a positive impact on the world.

This is the reason I applied to be an Annual Giving student caller as I get to fundraise for other students like me, who wouldn’t be able to come to university without your gifts. As you will see over the next few pages, the Difference we are making in Birmingham. Your gifts, no matter what size, from £2 to millions, are having a transformative impact. I really enjoy my job as a caller as not only do I get to play a small role in giving back to the people who have helped me and fundraise for such great projects, but I also get to speak to alumni like you and hear about your memories of Birmingham and your advice for other students like me, who wouldn’t be able to continue in education and hope to make a difference this year. Thank you for your support.

Off campus

Delhi delegation
An undergraduate delegation travelled to the Academics Stand Against Poverty conference at the University of Delhi, India. The students learnt about the daily challenges faced by the global poor, met activists, academics and NGO representatives, and saw the vital research taking place to tackle these problems and how they can play their part back in Birmingham.

Seeing the light
Dental students have been given an unrivalled opportunity to learn innovative filling techniques and train with specialised equipment. The new light-curing equipment, MARC (Managing Accurate Resin Curing), is improving clinical technique by enabling assessment of the effectiveness of fillings.

Burkitt’s Lymphoma
Staff and students raised more than £285 for our life-saving research into Burkitt’s Lymphoma, an aggressive cancer which accounts for half of all childhood cancers in Sub-Saharan Africa, with a charity bake sale.

In the pink
Old Joe joined historic landmarks across Britain, including Buckingham Palace and Trafalgar Square, by turning pink in October 2012 to raise awareness of breast cancer. As one of the UK’s leading centres for cancer research, the University is working to ensure early diagnosis and the best possible treatment for breast cancer. A lecture from Head of Cancer Sciences, Professor Paul Mason, entitled ‘Fighting cancer’ provided a history of UK cancer research and a snapshot of Birmingham’s work leading the fight.

Shakespeare Institute Summer School
English undergraduates benefited from a behind-the-scenes insight into Shakespeare at a special alumni-funded summer school. Acting workshops and cutting-edge research showcased the Bard’s relevance today.

e-Library
Access to a bespoke audio-visual library of learning resources is now available to medical students to help develop their specialised research skills. Many students complete their research abroad so the innovative online library ensures students have access to the best research support available and the opportunity to review and develop their skills throughout their studies.

To make a donation to Circles of influence, use your mobile phone (see page 8), complete and return the enclosed form, or visit our website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving. Alternatively, call +44 (0)121 414 8894 to give or +44 (0)121 414 7957 with any queries.
Continuing to change lives

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, supporters and friends, we have been able to achieve all of this and so much more.

Pioneering treatment for prostate cancer

Prostate cancer affects one in nine men in the UK, making it the most common cancer among the country’s men. The University is pioneering new treatments to improve quality of life and find novel ways to treat the disease, including a groundbreaking clinical trial which combines two existing therapies in a unique way.

The trial uses High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) treatment which heats and cools the prostate to destroy the tumour, coupled with a powerful immune system stimulant to protect patients from the disease in a minimally invasive procedure.

‘Unfortunately prostate cancer is a very common disease with up to 40,000 new cases a year,’ says Dr Richard Viney, Senior Lecturer in Urology, School of Cancer Sciences and Consultant at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. ‘We hope this new trial will develop a novel way of managing the cancer to improve the lives of thousands of men across the country.’

The treatment is expected to improve life expectancy of advanced sufferers who have exhausted all other options and if successful, will act as an alternative treatment to chemotherapy and radiation for newly diagnosed patients. Richard adds: ‘Thanks to advances such as this, patients will live with prostate cancer instead of die because of it.’

Learn more www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving/prostate-cancer.aspx

What giving means to me

Having spent more than 30 years in clinical cancer research in Birmingham, I have been able to achieve all of this and so much more. The presence of a thriving, productive cultural dynamism is no less important for the life of a university and the region it serves. The arts and humanities help us to understand and judge ourselves. That’s why I give to the Barber Institute of Fine Arts and the Bramall Music Building.

Professor Michael Cullen, (OxU Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music, 2009)

Gift boosts fight against global threat

Funding of £500,000 from the Wolfson Foundation will enable the University to manage the cancer to improve the lives of thousands of men across the country.

Building on a long tradition of microbiology research and substantial investment from the University, the Birmingham Interdisciplinary Centre for Antimicrobial Drug Discovery (BICADD) will be a world-class facility to find new drugs for use against everything from hospital-acquired ‘superbugs’ to tuberculosis.

With a rich network of links to the pharmaceutical industry and the largest clinical trials unit in the country, BICADD can then move to disseminate quickly from the lab into clinical practice, benefiting patients as fast as possible.

‘Infection represents an enduring threat to human health globally,’ explains Del Besra, Bardrick Professor of Microbial Physiology and Chemistry and recipient of the Wolfson Royal Society Multi Award. ‘Across the planet, hospital-acquired infections, tuberculosis and malaria kill millions every year and in our hospitals, the success of modern medicine guarantees the prolonged survival of vulnerable patients, leaving them wide open to infection.’

Dr Luke Alderwick also speaks of the need for new drugs now to have any chance of controlling – or better still eliminating – these deadly bacterial pathogens. ‘I would like to thank the Foundation for their generous support, which will enable us to make significant advances in this ongoing and urgent fight,’ he says.

Learn more www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/biosciences/alderwick-luke.aspx

What giving means to me

We are very proud to have our name on the Bramall Music Building which is a wonderful facility completing the historic Aston Webb semicircle and bringing music to the heart of campus. ‘We have always had a close affinity to Birmingham and have shared some very special memories here. Music is an area that we feel passionately about and we hope these facilities will provide the department, and the people within it, with the tools they need to excel in every way possible.

Dr and Mrs Bramall, (Dr Terry Bramall CBE BSc Civil Engineering, 1964; Hon DUUniv, 2011)

Lifting barriers lets talent shine

When Usamah Khalid (MEng Civil Engineering, 2012) was 16 years old, university was an aspiration that seemed outside of his grasp. However, thanks to the University’s Access to Birmingham (A2B) scheme, six years later, Usamah has a Masters in Civil Engineering and is now on a graduate scheme with the Highways Agency working towards achieving Chartered Engineer status.

‘A2B was the reason for my success,’ he says. ‘My parents had no experience of higher education so it was unknown to me. The work of the team through school visits and summer schools addressed my concerns financially and socially before I arrived, allowing me to focus on my studies and enjoy my time at university without worry.’

Funded by alumni and friends, A2B scholarships provide an opportunity for talented students from the West Midlands whose families have little or no experience of higher education to gain access to the University regardless of their personal or financial circumstances. Applications are continuing to grow and nearly 70% of students achieve at least a 2:1.

‘A2B is so much more than financial support, it is an opportunity. Students can be dissuaded from applying because of personal circumstances but A2B overcomes this. It is something that I continue to support having left university and will no doubt give back financially when I can,’ Usamah adds.

Learn more www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving/A2B.aspx
Graduations makes the pursuit of a specific career more attainable. Careers talks at Birmingham are led by Norma Broadbridge (BSc Botany, 1954; MSc Sport and Exercise Sciences, 1986), President of the Guild of Graduates and Alumni Association, who said: ‘I gained much more than a degree and a leading career. I felt I had been given so much with such a profound effect on my life, that it was only right to give something back.’

Dr Sheelah James (MBChB Medicine, 1961), legator said: ‘The University formed such an important part of Chris’ life and is renowned for research on many types of cancer.’

Christine Thomas (BSc Geography, 1994), a former teacher and educational consultant, lost her battle with secondary bone cancer last year after her breast cancer spread. Christine’s legacy will always live on through a gift to pioneering research at Birmingham.

‘The University formed such an important part of Chris’ life and is renowned for research on many types of cancer,’ explains her husband David Crane. ‘As a family, we wanted to support breast cancer research and Birmingham was the obvious place. We hope that it can help in some way to make a difference.’

Christine’s legacy has funded an incubator for Dr Jo Morris, Senior Lecturer, School of Cancer Sciences, and her team who are conducting a new trial to improve understanding of how and why hereditary breast cancer develops. The incubator will keep cells alive, protecting them from breast cancer develops. The incubator is an overwhelming success and Ashleigh was a credit to Birmingham. As a result, we are planning to continue the programme.’

Sarah Fahy, Vice President, Global Tax Office Europe, Sony, (BSc Industrial Economics and Business Studies, 1996) said: ‘I hope students gain some practical experience from my guest lectures. To learn the theory is fantastic, but I want to give an insight into how I run my business and the sort of decisions I need to make.’

Matthew Key, CEO of Telefonica Digital (BScSc: Economics, 1984) said: ‘Traditionally, leaving a legacy to Birmingham might have been considered as a gift to the University as a legacy. The Barber Institute of Fine Arts was gifted to the University as a legacy. Helping students in financial need is the most commonly cited reason for leaving a legacy to Birmingham.

Anyone leaving 10% of their taxable estate to charity will qualify for a reduced rate of inheritance tax.

Anyone over 18 can make a will.

As the University is a charity, your legacy will be exempt from inheritance tax.

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts was gifted to the University as a legacy.

The most commonly cited reason for leaving a legacy to Birmingham is helping students in financial need.

What can I leave to Birmingham?

- Residual bequest: All or part of your estate’s remainder after all other bequests are made.
- Pecuniary bequest: A specified sum of money.
- Specific bequest: A particular named item such as shares, jewellery or a piece of art.
- In memoriam donations: Instead of funeral flowers, friends and family make a donation to the University in your honour.

In all cases you may specify where you would like your legacy to go, in consultation with the University. To leave your legacy, or find out more contact Christian Burden via alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

What giving means to me

Dr Sheelah James (MBChB Medicine, 1961), legator said: ‘I enjoyed my time as a student at Birmingham Medical School and felt that I gained much more than a degree and a leading career. I felt I had been given so much with such a profound effect on my life. That it was only right to give something back.’

Inheritance Tax.

An estimated 7% of people in the UK give regularly to charities and yet only 7% remember them in their Will. You can do great things with a legacy to Birmingham.

LEAVING A LEGACY TO BIRMINGHAM

- The most commonly cited reason for leaving a legacy to Birmingham is helping students in financial need.
- Help and the impact this can have. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Kerrie Holland via alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Almost three-quarters of people in the UK give regularly to charities and yet only 7% remember them in their Will. You can do great things with a legacy to Birmingham.

Christine Thomas (BSc Geography, 1994), a former teacher and educational consultant, lost her battle with secondary bone cancer last year after her breast cancer spread. Christine’s legacy will always live on through a gift to pioneering research at Birmingham.

‘The University formed such an important part of Chris’ life and is renowned for research on many types of cancer,’ explains her husband David Crane. ‘As a family, we wanted to support breast cancer research and Birmingham was the obvious place. We hope that it can help in some way to make a difference.’

Christine’s legacy has funded an incubator for Dr Jo Morris, Senior Lecturer, School of Cancer Sciences, and her team who are conducting a new trial to improve understanding of how and why hereditary breast cancer develops. The incubator will keep cells alive, protecting them from breast cancer develops. The incubator is an overwhelming success and Ashleigh was a credit to Birmingham. As a result, we are planning to continue the programme.’

Sarah Fahy, Vice President, Global Tax Office Europe, Sony, (BSc Industrial Economics and Business Studies, 1996) said: ‘I hope students gain some practical experience from my guest lectures. To learn the theory is fantastic, but I want to give an insight into how I run my business and the sort of decisions I need to make.’

Matthew Key, CEO of Telefonica Digital (BScSc: Economics, 1984) said: ‘Traditionally, leaving a legacy to Birmingham might have been considered as a gift to the University as a legacy. The Barber Institute of Fine Arts was gifted to the University as a legacy. Helping students in financial need is the most commonly cited reason for leaving a legacy to Birmingham.

Anyone leaving 10% of their taxable estate to charity will qualify for a reduced rate of inheritance tax.

Anyone over 18 can make a will.

As the University is a charity, your legacy will be exempt from inheritance tax.

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts was gifted to the University as a legacy.

The most commonly cited reason for leaving a legacy to Birmingham is helping students in financial need.

What can I leave to Birmingham?

- Residual bequest: All or part of your estate’s remainder after all other bequests are made.
- Pecuniary bequest: A specified sum of money.
- Specific bequest: A particular named item such as shares, jewellery or a piece of art.
- In memoriam donations: Instead of funeral flowers, friends and family make a donation to the University in your honour.

In all cases you may specify where you would like your legacy to go, in consultation with the University. To leave your legacy, or find out more contact Christian Burden via alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

What giving means to me

Dr Sheelah James (MBChB Medicine, 1961), legator said: ‘I enjoyed my time as a student at Birmingham Medical School and felt that I gained much more than a degree and a leading career. I felt I had been given so much with such a profound effect on my life. That it was only right to give something back.’
CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE: THE NEXT PHASE

CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

INNOVATION AND IMMEDIATE IMPACT
1,767 donors*

HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE
1,099 donors*

APPLICATIONS SUPPORT
1,101 donors*

BRING INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO LIFE

IMPACT ON STUDENTS AND STAFF

ACCESS TO BIRMINGHAM (A2B)

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

CULTURAL INTERNSHIPS

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

HERITAGE, CULTURE AND SPORT
1,001 donors*

HERITAGE, CULTURE AND SPORT

BARBER INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

SPORTS CENTRE

LIBRARY

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
668 donors*

BIRMINGHAM INTERNSHIPS

BRING INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO LIFE

PROVIDE ADDITIONAL VALUE

Find out more about funded projects on pages 2-3

Which project will you support?

Text the code below followed by the amount you wish to give to 70070
CIRC02 Innovation and immediate impact
CIRC03 Children and young people
CIRC04 Heritage, culture and sport
CIRC05 Health and lifestyle
CIRC06 Student support

What giving means to me

“My internship was such a fantastic experience which challenged me culturally, academically and socially, sharpening my flexibility to new environments. I have ambitions to work in a leading global company and would like to thank you for making this experience, which will prove invaluable for my future career, possible.”

Daniela Lungu, Accounting and Finance student who completed a summer internship in Dubai with GlaxoSmithKline

THANK YOU

Inspired?
Please complete your donation form, text to give or give online at www.birmingham.ac.uk/circlesofinfluence

*Figures correct as of December 2012