"Thank you for the Joseph M. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Fund. I have received this due to the work grant program, which allows us to work for our tuition here at Jesuit. I have made many new friends due to this program and I feel it is a great way to help out my family”

This was written by a young scholarship recipient from the Jesuit Preparatory School in Dallas USA. The student was Jordan Spieth the golfer who won this year’s US Masters at the age of twenty one, with a record breaking score. In reflecting on Jordan’s success, the President of Dallas College Michael Earsing recently commented:

“We talk about Ignatian balance in everything we do and I think Jordan and his family are a really good example of that balance. When we talk about balance, we talk about love. We talk about how much he loves his sister, (who has special needs) and who has kept him grounded”.

In also congratulating Jordan on his wonderful success, we are proud to name him amongst our Ignatian “men for others”. I would also take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Frank Peck, the Chairman of the Xavier Council, on receiving an OAM in the 2015 Queen’s Birthday Honours list. Frank’s award was for “service to education and to professional organisations.”

Frank’s early years were spent at Bears Lagoon, a very small town north west of Bendigo, before he went on to board at Assumption College Kilmore.

Frank is a graduate from both the University of Melbourne and La Trobe University. He has been involved in education at both a national and international level. Frank and his wife Geraldine have been supporters of the Xavier Foundation for many years. On behalf of the Foundation Board I congratulate Frank on his well deserved award.

In conclusion may I again remind you please to support the Annual Foundation Appeal, which commenced at the end of May. In anticipation of your generosity to the Foundation, may I borrow from Jordan Spieth’s letter to the Murphy Foundation: “I thank you again for your kindness”.

Tony Nunan
Chairman
Xavier College Foundation Ltd

The education of those young people entrusted to us at Xavier College is a wonderful enterprise to behold and can be seen within the wider context of our support of the mission of the Australian Jesuit province. This mission has been described as “a shared life” with the Jesuits, rather than simply a set of tasks to be accomplished.

Our purposes through the work of the Xavier College Foundation are to support the work of the Jesuits in putting God’s word into practice by serving others. Most particularly we seek to do this through their work in education and the formation of young lives, who in turn will seek to serve others. In many ways we are contributing to a continuum: an ongoing cycle of prayer, reflection and action as we seek to serve God by responding to the needs of the world.

While our purposes and intentions are high, we remain grounded in the realities that in order to build this educational community, we must work to raise those funds that underpin all bricks and mortar possibilities and the educational opportunities that Xavier College may provide.

The financial realities of the new century mean that this is a considerable challenge for us. However through the work of the Xavier College Foundation and drawing on the confidence from the history of generous giving that have been hallmarks of this Ignatian community since its inception 137 years ago, we face the future both in hope and with a determination to continue to support the work of the Jesuits at Xavier College. In so doing we do not underestimate the challenges ahead of us and I commend the work of the Xavier College Foundation to the wider Xavier family, which will be central to the provision of facilities and to facilitating access to the College through the funding of scholarships and bursaries.

May we continue that same tradition of generosity that will enable us to support the work of the Jesuits, as together in the spirit of St Ignatius we seek “to love and to serve”.

Frank Peck
Chair of the College Council
The Sir Lewis Burne (OX 1913) Memorial Dinner for Global Young Leaders.

The Global Young Leaders’ Conference (GYLC) is the premier leadership development program for motivated and accomplished students from across the United States and more than 145 countries around the world. This ten day leadership journey provides an out-of-classroom learning experience and a rigorous curriculum that equips students with the confidence, independence, skills and global competitiveness required of the next generation of future leaders.

The conference invites participants from Xavier College to explore fully cultural differences, gain first hand exposure to the challenges of international diplomacy, build confidence and enhance decision-making skills in an atmosphere of mutual respect that will challenge students to broaden their world view.

On the 21 May, the Xavier College Foundation hosted the annual Global Young Leaders’ dinner named in memory of Sir Lewis Burne (OX 1913). Attended by many previous participants, stories were shared with current Xavier students about their experiences and how the GYLC has shaped their lives. Through the Foundation Mr Peter Walsh, Trustee of the Eldon Hogan Trust, has enabled many students to attend the GYLC however ongoing support from the wider community is always required.

Standing: L – R: Dylan Rigoni (OX 2011), Sam McCaffrey (Year 12), Alexander Valente (OX 2013), Richard Hughes (OX 2010), Thomas Ellingsworth (OX 2014), Seamus Horan (OX 2014), Ben Smith (OX 2009), Christopher Bevilacqua (Year 12), Jack Walsh (OX 2014)

Seated: L – R: Thomas Crowley (OX 2014), Michael Marigliani (OX 2009), Patrick Crock (Year 12), Peter Walsh - Trustee of the Eldon Hogan Trust (OX 1959), Conor O’Sullivan (Year 12), Richard Guiney (OX 2014), Gareth Kiernan (Year 12)

Such an intensive two-week experience, GYLC has left a great impact on me since. The conference has expanded my future career path options and I am now keen to further my knowledge of globalisation as I develop as a young man in society.”

Gareth Kiernan Year 12 attended conference 2014
I came home from the Global Young Leaders’ Conference with a great many things. The one that has had the most profound impact on me however is a rather surprising one, I came home with optimism. We live in a world that gives us much cause to be pessimistic. Driven by war and torn apart by suffering in all corners, it is easy to fear the worst for the future. These fears are perhaps not altogether unreasonable. There is indeed much in the world that is wrong.

But the Global Young Leaders’ Conference gave me cause for optimism amidst all of this negativity. Three hundred students from all corners of the world lived and worked together for two weeks and contrary to my wildest expectations, everyone got along. I had expected cultural communication barriers. I had expected animosity or tension between participants from different worlds. I encountered none. Prejudices and predispositions, themselves the product of ignorance and unfamiliarity, were left at the door. We approached the conference not as Australians, Germans or Jordanians but as people. The result? We made friends.

The message was loud and clear, that the surest way to overcome prejudice and hostility was to get to know the unknown. If you make friends with people from cultures you are not familiar with, the de-humanising stereotypes you carried with you are quickly replaced with the truth that we are all not so different after all. It’s not as if I hadn’t known this before the trip, but without having put it into practice, I didn’t properly understand it.

The conference gave me a new-found faith in diplomacy. When we come to the table as friends, bearing in mind that which we have in common, we can put aside differences and dream, as the students at the conference dreamed, of a better way of doing things. Perhaps these friends will meet again at the UN one day. Perhaps not. But others like them might and if they too can put aside prejudices and preconceptions as the students I met did, much could be achieved.

With so much to be pessimistic about, this dose of optimism was welcome. Three years on from the conference, it has not left me.

Tom Crowley (OX 2013)
Attended conference 2012

If you would like to support this initiative financially, please contact Libby Crosthwaite at the Xavier College Foundation email: libby.crosthwaite@xavier.vic.edu.au or call: 03 9815 4542.
The Steinway grand piano currently located in the Eldon Hogan Performing Arts Centre, is an outstanding reminder of the enduring bequests of the late John Kearney QC (OX 1939) and his wife Alison. Prior to the purchase of the piano in December 2007, Greg Carey Director of Music, trialled the College’s particular instrument at the House of Steinway in Hamburg whilst on long service leave. The piano is currently enjoyed by students and teachers alike, filling the EHPAC with beautiful sounds.

John Kearney completed his studies at Xavier in 1939 and went on to study law at the University of Melbourne. He was appointed a QC in 1964 aged 41, the youngest such appointment at the time. John’s distinguished career led to professional and material success, success that he and his wife Alison generously shared with others. John had a love of education in the broadest sense and a real willingness to help young people gain a better education. In addition to the Steinway piano, Xavier College has been blessed by Mr Kearney’s generosity in the funding of scholarships to Bond University for Xavier alumni; the transformation of the crypt below the College chapel into a Drama Studio (funded jointly with the Eldon Hogan Trust); the development of the Gerard Manley Hopkins Centre in the West Wing and the annual Physics prize named to honour both John and Alison.

In June 2010 the upgrade of the Charles Street gates was completed and blessed by the then Rector, Father Thomas Renshaw SJ. The upgrade was the result of the joint generosity of Alison and John Kearney and Margaret Tutton, in memory of her brother John Kerr Tutton (OX 1931).

These are only some of the initiatives that were generously funded by John and Alison Kearney that provide ongoing benefits to the students. We express our deep gratitude for a loyal and generous son of Xavier who always sought to nurture and support the students and alumni who followed after him.
What were your first impressions of Xavier?
I remember my first impressions as I sat for the scholarship exam in the Stephenson Centre: “Xavier was the place I needed to be”. My parents had started a small food wholesaling company and without the financial assistance provided by the scholarship, I knew that Xavier would not have been an option for me. I remain mindful of what a big decision and sacrifice it was for my family to send me to Xavier as a boarder, even on a scholarship.

Did you feel any pressure?
I did not feel pressured by my family to achieve good grades, but I remember being struck by how bright some of my fellow Xaverians were and how hard I would have to work at my studies. My personal goal was to get to university and Xavier gave me a sense of empowerment, that I could achieve what I put my mind to.

What have you done in the five years since Year 12 at Xavier?
I did go to Monash University and started a Business Degree, specialising in Banking, Accounting, Finance and Marketing. However after the first year I moved across to RMIT University as I wanted a more creative outlet and while still studying Business, my focus switched more to technology, particularly the wide range of possibilities in digital communication, entrepreneurship and marketing. I’ve managed to get a lot of career experience in addition to my studies, as well as seeing the world through travel. I felt that my education at Xavier had taught me to be flexible and to embrace change if it is worthwhile. To get out of my comfort zone.

What are your memories of Xavier?
Living as a boarder at Xavier for four years allowed me to develop some great memories that I often look back on. Living in the boarding house taught me not only to look after myself, but also how to live with others. I remember the May Time Fair as a great day each year that really bought the Jesuit philosophy to life; the Saturday sports days with crowds that rivalled professional sporting matches and of course the friendships and mentorship from classmates and the staff at Xavier.

Does any event in particular come to mind?
I had the experience of applying for a scholarship and being sent to India at the end of Year 11. This was a wonderful but confronting and challenging experience; it had
I felt that my education at Xavier had taught me to be flexible and to embrace change if it is worthwhile.”

Luke Tengstrom (OX 2010)

a huge effect on me. India literally opened my eyes to a different world. I had to think for myself, respond to stressful images. It taught me to grow up and to be more independent.

How do you remember student life at Xavier?
Student life at Xavier is something I value highly. I was always empowered to reach my full potential yet enjoy the friendly environment the school provides. I liked the Tutor Groups where we mixed with other boys from all year levels. I was in Gonzaga and the House system gave me a great sense of belonging and being mentored, particularly by my House teacher Mike Aldcroft. There were also great mentors in the Boarding House.

Do you hold values in your life and work that you think come from your school days?
Absolutely – I think we had instilled in us the need to respect others; to think about our purpose in life. To grow as a person. To give back to others. I have been working for a rather small bank whose motto is “banking fairer”. All clients are treated equally, which appealed to a sense of justice which I think Xavier instilled in me.

What other professional experience have you had?
Another role as an intern in an advertising agency led to a scholarship for a study tour at Ryerson University in Toronto. After four interviews with Google I gained a three month internship at Google (Sydney). The Google complex is spread across a number of buildings, it is almost like a campus. You move around the Google ‘campus’ on scooters. I was part of a large customer team driving digital strategy for clients rather than the more traditional forums of TV or newspaper advertising. It was an interesting corporate experience at Google: all meals were provided; you could borrow cars or kayaks for your own use; the dress code was casual; there was even free sports training and yoga!

And what does the future hold for you?
I am now working for Accenture; my focus is to be on Business Design – devising new products and services ideas for business, with a focus on delivering value for the clients. I like the creative nature of this work.

Do you still feel a connection to Xavier?
Yes I still keep up my friendships with the Xavier boys. Your boarding mates stay your friends, but I have also noticed how boys I didn’t have much to do with at school are now also firm friends. I often think of how different my life would be if I had not gone to Xavier: “Where would I be?” I often feel how grateful I am for the scholarship which brought me to the college and hope other boys will be able to continue to come to Xavier with the assistance of a scholarship.”

So you are a ‘believer’ in school scholarships?
“Oh yes! People who donate to the scholarship funds at Xavier must know that in doing so, they are actually changing lives. I will always be grateful for my scholarship to Xavier College.”

I often feel how grateful I am for the scholarship which brought me to the college and hope other boys will be able to continue to come to Xavier with the assistance of a scholarship.”
Xavier College Foundation Annual Appeal.

Our current Foundation annual appeal is underway. We have invited the entire Xavier Community to support the Ignatius Education Fund (IEF) which was established to support students and families who could not under normal circumstances afford a Xavier College Education.

Today Xavier is what it is due to the generosity of those who have gone before us and as previous generations have been called upon, so we now ask for your support.

If you haven’t already donated, we encourage you to do so. Please return the donation reply form attached to the appeal letter you would have recently received by mail. You can also donate online by visiting the Foundation pages at www.xavier.vic.edu.au, call the Foundation on 03 9815 4542 Monday to Thursday or Email: foundation@xavier.vic.edu.au

Memorial Giving

Another way to give to the Xavier College Foundation, is through the In-Memoriam Program, which is a thoughtful way to pay tribute to the life of a friend or family member whilst supporting a cause important to them.

Your donation will go towards supporting education at Xavier through our Scholarship and Bursary Program or if preferred, to support the College’s Building Fund.

When memorial gifts are received by the Foundation, a thank you letter and receipt will be sent to each individual donor. If a memorial program has been set up by the deceased’s family, we will notify the next-of-kin (if advised) of the names and addresses of those who have kindly donated and the total amount of donations received (not individual amounts).

The desire to give in honour or in memory of others is among the most powerful and timeless of gifts. To set up a memorial program or if you would like to order donation envelopes for a memorial service, please contact Heather Murphy at the Xavier College Foundation Office on 03 9815 4542 or email: foundation@xavier.vic.edu.au

To make regular monthly or quarterly donations
Please contact Heather Murphy at the Xavier College Foundation Office on 03 9815 4542 or email: foundation@xavier.vic.edu.au

Have you moved or changed your contact details recently?
Your contact details are important to us. If you have changed your contact details, or have not provided us with an email address, please call us on 03 9815 4542 or email us your details at foundation@xavier.vic.edu.au