



University of Essex

# Impact Report



**2015/16**

## Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Philanthropy at Essex is about supporting our community in our quest to make the world a better place. Your support will really make a difference to every member of the Essex community. I hope these wonderful examples of how philanthropy has made a difference over the last 12 months will be an inspiration to you, help in show-casing the type of impact that philanthropy can have, and encourage you to support the work of our amazing Essex community.

Thank you.

Professor Anthony Forster  
Vice-Chancellor



## Message from the Students' Union President



The membership of the Students' Union and we will go far and beyond to work with our members to ensure that they have the very best experience at Essex. Whether it's a volunteering project, providing valuable career and life advice or people supporting our talented and innovative members, raising funds through the Click crowdfunding platform, philanthropy supports all aspects of student life at Essex.

From your Students' Union, a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us and made Essex what it is today.

Thank you.

Zoe Garshong  
Students' Union President

## Support for student projects is just a Click away!

In November 2015, the University launched Click, a crowdfunding platform to support students fundraising for big ideas and exciting projects.

Since then, more than 35 student-led projects have successfully raised almost £30,000, enabling students from East 15 to take their plays to the Edinburgh Fringe, sports clubs to buy new equipment and attend national competitions and budding entrepreneurs to make their ideas a reality.

The students work with the University's Philanthropy Team to develop their projects and raise funds from their friends, families and networks whilst gaining valuable skills in project management, fundraising and marketing.

Thank you.



## Elite sportswomen receive vital support

January 2016 saw the Essex Blades women's basketball team win the Basketball England National Cup final in its first year in the competition.

Playing at the home of Basketball England in Sheffield, and rated as the underdogs against Reading Rockets, they came back from seven points down at half-time to win 53-52, taking the lead with just three seconds of the game remaining.

Performance basketball at Essex is supported by a partnership with local sports equipment provider, Sportsafe UK. Their support enables Essex to take part in the national leagues, supporting player registrations and travel costs for away games. Without their support, the women's team would not have been able to compete at this level and bring the trophy home to Essex.

Thank you.

## Changing lives through partnership

In 2007, Essex joined in a partnership with Santander Universities that provided support for students in a number of areas. The partnership provides scholarships and mobility grants, offering students the opportunity to study at Essex and undertake research projects and activities internationally.

More recently, the partnership has developed to include support for students to take up internships with Small and Medium sized Enterprises, student entrepreneurship activities and academic exchanges. Members of Santander's senior team, including the Head of UK Banking, have also held prestigious lectures for our staff and students.

Partnerships of this kind have a transformational effect on our students. Gabriela de Luca (Santander scholar 2011) described her scholarship as "the only option I had to study here" and a "dream come true". Gabi now works as an attorney at the Center for Justice and International Law in Argentina, having studied an LLM in International Human Rights Law.

Thank you.



## Small change, big impact

Donate your pennies is a brand new way for staff at Essex to get involved in philanthropy. When signing up, staff's net monthly pay is rounded down to the nearest pound, with the spare pennies going towards scholarships.

In the first three months alone, 107 staff have signed up, generating £55 per month. With over 3,000 staff at Essex, together we could make a big difference. If everyone got involved it could mean tens of thousands of pounds to support our students...all from a few pennies!

Thank you.



## Supporting Women to change the world

In June 2015 our Chancellor, Shami Chakrabarti, launched Essex's first ever Chancellor's Appeal. The Women of the Future Appeal aimed to raise funds to create 25 scholarships to support talented women from all over the world to study and learn at Essex.

One year on and the initial target of £500,000 had already been reached thanks to the generosity of more than 200 donors including staff, alumni, students and members of our local community, and the support kept coming. We are now able to provide even more than the original 25 scholarships to support more women from across the globe to benefit from an Essex education.

Thank you.



# Recognising your support

The University is hugely proud of our donor community and what you have helped to achieve. From supporting enterprising students to fulfil their dreams to enabling women from across the globe to study at Essex, your support makes all the difference.

If you are visiting our campuses, you will see a number of different ways we acknowledge and thank our donors, volunteers and supporters. From named buildings to our 'Philanthropy bridge', we want to highlight the many ways philanthropic support shapes our University.

**Thank you.**



## Donor breakdowns

### Your support in action

Thanks to our supporters, Essex is making a difference throughout the world. In 2015/16, over £1.6million has been pledged to provide scholarships to enable the brightest and the best minds to study at Essex and support our ground breaking research tackling the big global issues.

#### Where **donations** came from in 2015-16

