This year the Department of Engineering Science’s Headstart course for sixth formers, from throughout the UK, received generous support from international construction company, Laing O’Rourke. This enabled the Department to enhance its Headstart course literature, include visits to construction sites in Oxford and hold a gala dinner at Hertford College. These photographs give a flavour of this year’s course, which also included a number of practical challenges, a design competition, demonstrations, and team projects.

Mr Neil Pitt, Laing O’Rourke’s Engineering Excellence + Award winner, gave the after-dinner speech.

Professor Fionn Dunne, Deputy Head of the Department of Engineering Science, has been involved with Headstart for many years and attended this year’s dinner.

Headstart Course Manager, Dr Douglas Hamilton from the Department of Engineering Science, is seen here introducing the speaker at the dinner. Dr Hamilton has been managing this programme since its inception in 1997.

Mr Chris Sillitoe, Headstart Supervisor, (second from right) is seen here with volunteers, representatives from Laing O’Rourke and the Headstart Course Manager.

Headstart students on their way from the drinks reception to their end of course gala dinner at Hertford College.

Mr Chris Sillitoe, Headstart Supervisor, (second from right) is seen here with volunteers, representatives from Laing O’Rourke and the Headstart Course Manager.