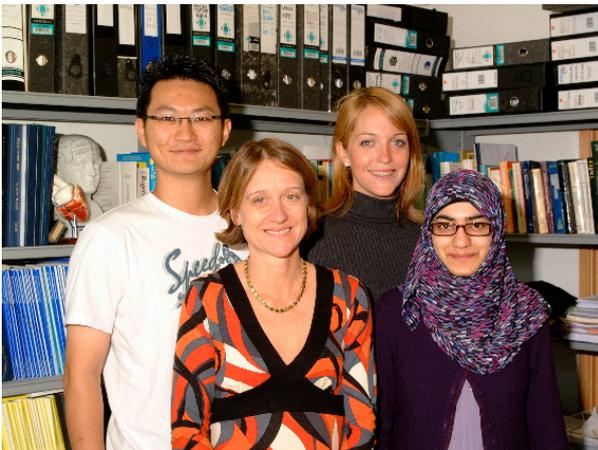


Qualcomm Scholarships are Awarded



Professor Alison Noble, MSc Course Director:2008-09, is seen here (front row:left) with the three new Qualcomm Scholars

With generous funding from Qualcomm Incorporated, a leading developer of advanced wireless technologies and data solutions, the University of Oxford's Department of Engineering Science has awarded three scholarships to Master of Science (MSc) graduates of Biomedical Engineering. The donation, which establishes the Qualcomm Scholarships in Biomedical Engineering at the Institute of Biomedical Engineering, reflects Qualcomm's commitment to fostering exceptional talent and extending innovation into new markets.

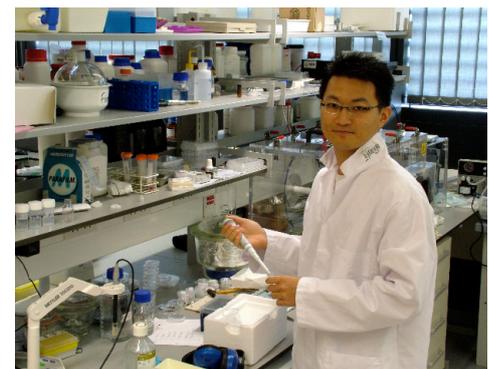
Qualcomm's gift will not only enable three of the most talented graduates of our programme to continue their studies and study for a doctorate, but it also has the potential to make a major contribution to unmet clinical needs worldwide.

The three Qualcomm Scholars are Yee Kai Tee from Malaysia, Sara Khalid from Pakistan and Annick Routhier-Labadie from Canada.

Yee Kai Tee has a Bachelor of Engineering (First Class Honours) Electronics degree, specialising in Telecommunication, from the Multimedia University in Malaysia. Yee Kai Tee was awarded the President's Book Award from Multimedia University, which is given to first class honour graduates to recognise their outstanding academic performance. In 2007 he was selected to represent Malaysia at the China Synergy Program for Excellent Youth. In 2008 he was a recipient of the Sloane Robinson Scholarship for the MSc in Biomedical Engineering, for which he achieved a Distinction.

"I chose to study Biomedical engineering because it combines the design and problem solving skills of engineering with the medical and biological science to help improve patient healthcare and their quality of life.

I will embark on an intensive first year of study of my DPhil, which includes a hospital internship, modules on advanced biomedical engineering, commercialisation, entrepreneurship and business skills. I will also complete two short projects one of which will involve significant input from industry or working with a clinical group. At the end of the first year, one of the projects will become my DPhil research topic. After my DPhil I would like to work in academia to educate the future leaders."



Sara Khalid has a Bachelor in Electronics Engineering degree from the National University of Science and Technology, Pakistan, and was in the top 5% of her class. Sara was awarded Outstanding Student of the Year three times and in 2006 was honoured as Youth Achiever by Pakistan TV for exemplary academic excellence. In 2008 Sara was elected as a Rhodes Scholar and achieved Distinction for her MSc in Biomedical Engineering this year.

“Every year many deaths are caused because of patient deterioration in hospital wards. My research involves automated monitoring of patient vital signs data, such as heart rate, blood pressure, and temperature so as to alert hospital staff in case of an adverse event, giving them time enough to assist the patient.”

I aspire to continue as a biomedical engineering researcher, working at the academia-industry interface. I would eventually like to direct the focus of my work towards solution of the medical challenges faced in the developing world”.



Annick Routhier-Labadie has a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) degree in Physics from Seton Hall University, USA. She maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average in a very demanding Physics programme. Annick also has a Graduate Diploma in Applied Ethics from Université Laval, Canada. Annick is a recipient of a post-graduate Rhodes Scholarship and achieved a Distinction for her MSc in Biomedical Engineering this year.



“I consider biomedical engineering as a bridge between engineering and medicine, providing opportunities to work in a medical setting while contributing to the advancement of science.”

I'll be working on stroke care, as it is becoming an increasingly relevant medical problem in the United Kingdom (will soon surpass cardiovascular disease as the 2nd leading cause of death worldwide). Our group will develop a clinical decision support tool for stroke secondary prevention and long term recovery using Proforma, a Computer Interpretable Language being continuously developed at Oxford University. We have already established partnership with the John Radcliffe Hospital acute stroke unit specialists, and hope to develop a clinical application for them

to use in this setting; to create individualised patient discharge plans and facilitate communication in a multidisciplinary care setting.

I hope to work in an environment allowing for creativity, and constantly offering new challenges. I want to contribute to healthcare, be it at a scientific or administrative level, and oversee development of medical technology as well as its clinical implementation in the future”.

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