



Gates Cambridge Scholarships

Overview (last updated 2 June 2016)

by Robert Perrons
Associate Professor – QUT
www.perrons.net



Presentation sections

- The basics
- Application & selection
- Scholars & alumni
- Q&A

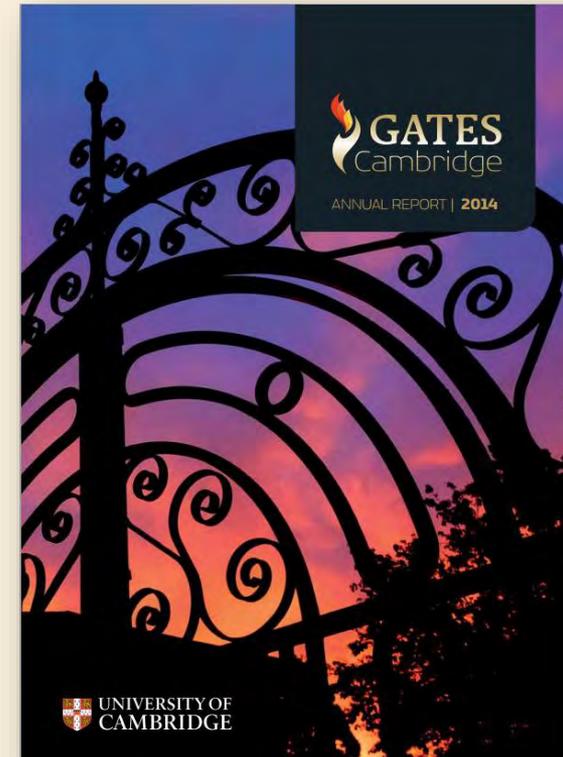


The basics

The basics

Overview

- **What:** highly competitive, prestigious full-cost scholarships for a postgraduate degree in any subject at the University of Cambridge
- **History:** established in 2000 by US\$210m donation from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to University of Cambridge
- **Aim:** to build a global network of future leaders committed to improving the lives of others



The basics

Who is eligible

- All citizens are eligible except UK citizens
- Must gain admission to one of the following full-time graduate programs at Cambridge:
 - PhD (three-year research)
 - MSc or MLitt (two-year research)
 - One-year postgraduate course (e.g. MPhil, MBA, Diploma – (taught/research))
- No age limit



The basics

Value

Core components (per year)

- University and College fees
- Living allowance (to cover accommodation, food and living expenses while studying) – £14,600 for 12 months in 2016/17
- Return airfare (one per course)
- Visa costs

Discretionary components

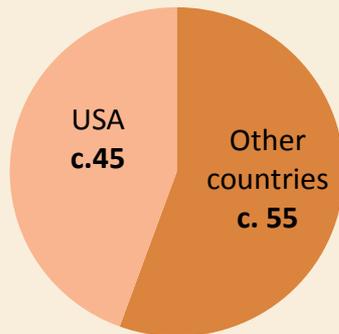
- Family allowance
- Academic Development
- Partial fourth year funding for PhD Scholars
- Hardship funding



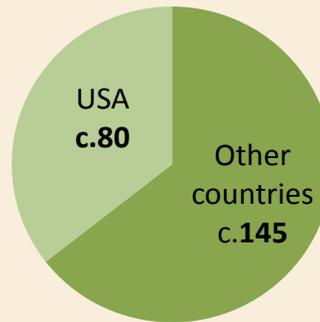
The basics

Gates Cambridge in numbers

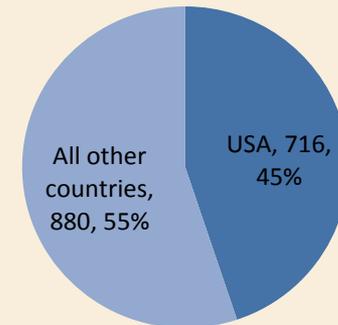
c. 90 New awards each year



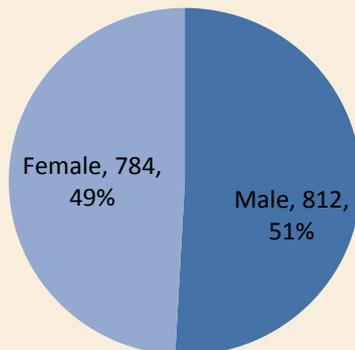
c. 225 Scholars in residence



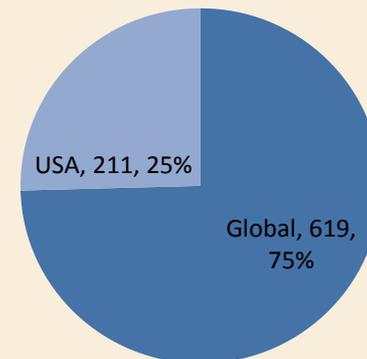
All awards by citizenship 2001-2016



All awards 2001 -2016 Gender



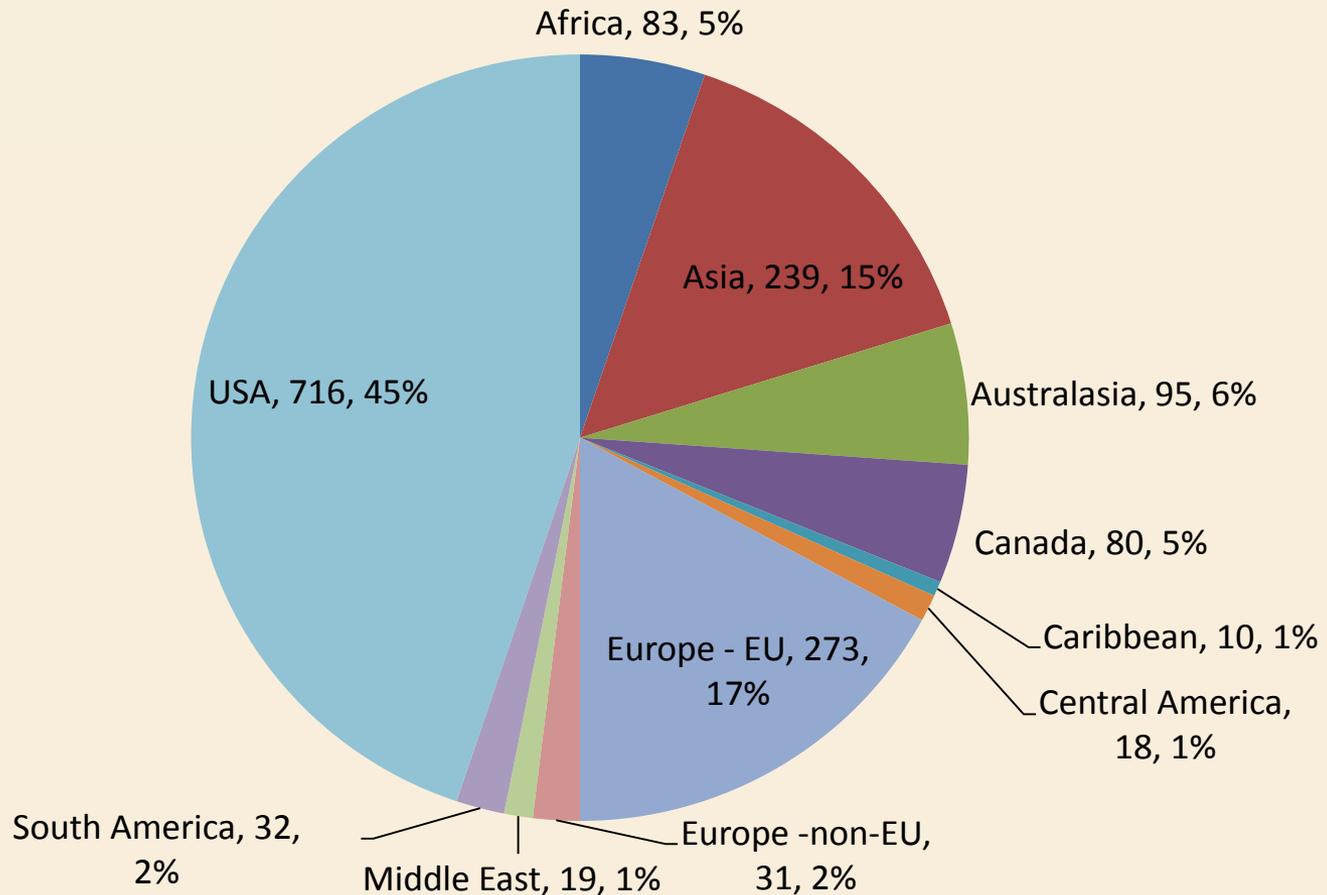
600+ previous universities to date



Overview

Gates Cambridge in numbers

Scholarships 2001 to 2016 – citizenship





Application & Selection

Application & selection

Selection criteria

- intellectual ability
- a good academic fit with Cambridge
- leadership capacity
- a commitment to improving the lives of others

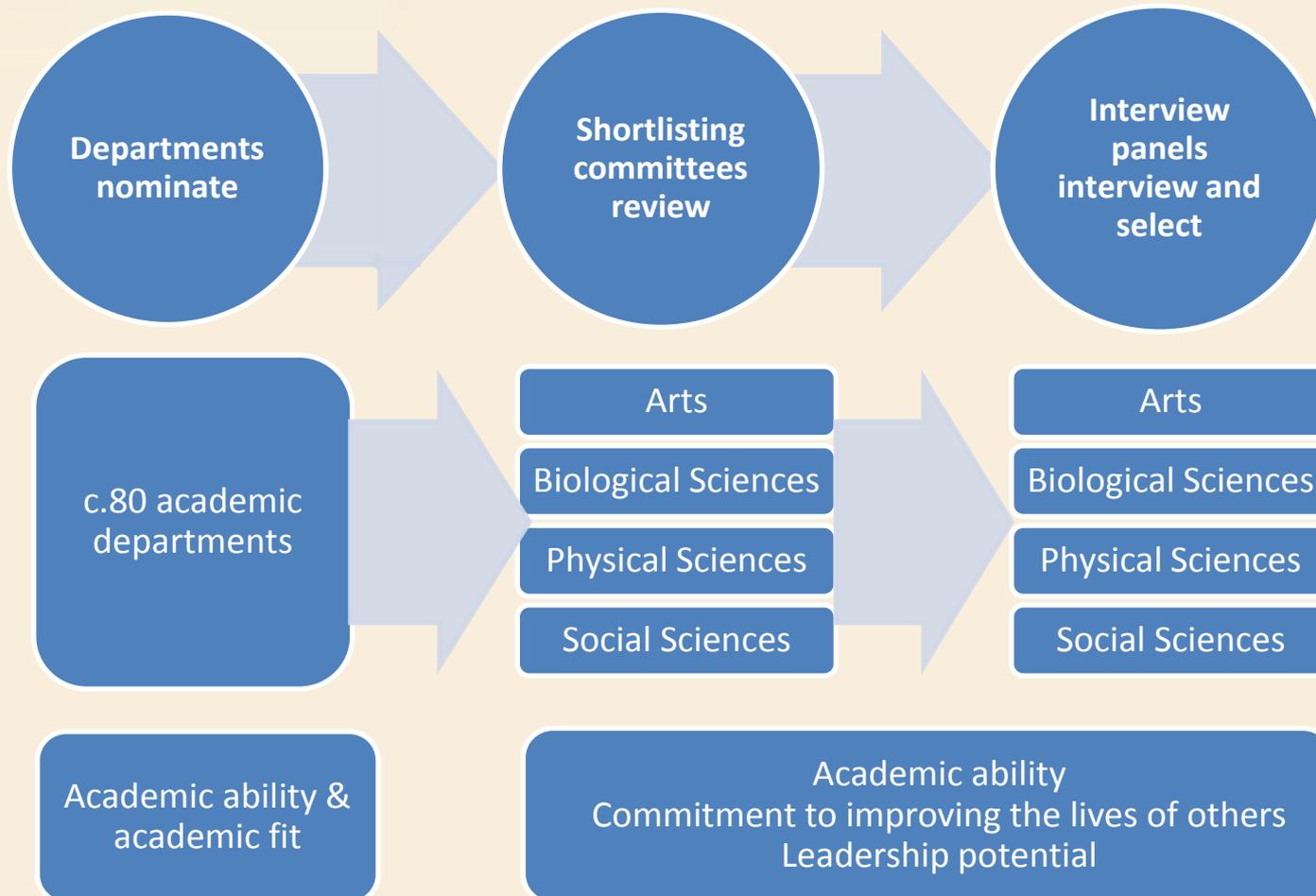
No one 'template' for a Gates Cambridge Scholar

Website and promotional material



How we select

Work flow



Application & selection

Numbers by selection stage

Stage	US round	International round
Total applications	c.800	c. 3,500
Departments nominate & shortlisting Committees review	200	250
Shortlisting Committees put forward for interview	90	110
Interview Panels select	c.35	c. 55
Success rate	4.5%	1.5%

Application & selection

What you apply for

One application form for:

- Postgraduate admission to the University
- College membership
- A Gates Cambridge Scholarship
- Other Cambridge funding

- Gates Cambridge does not place/admit

- Full details about how to apply on www.gatescambridge.org



Application & selection

The application pack

Parts of the application

- Application form (Part A admission, Part B funding)
- 3 References (2 academic, 1 personal)
- Academic transcripts
- If required, any additional documents
- [Resume for those to be interviewed]

- No institutional nomination required

Submitting and managing application

- Ideally submit on-line, application fee, on-line area



Application & selection

Personal statement

“If you wish to apply for a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, please describe below – in not more than 500 words – how your interests and achievements, both academic and extra-curricular, demonstrate a capacity for leadership and a commitment to improving the lives of others. Please also set out why you think there is a good fit between your professional aspirations and the graduate programme at Cambridge for which you are applying.”

- Vital
- Must be targeted



Application & selection

Personal reference

“Please give below your assessment of the applicant’s leadership potential and commitment to improving the lives of others. Please attach a separate letter if necessary”

- Who should write it?
- Vital
- Must be targeted
- Standard/template references not helpful



Application & selection

Example timetable for October 2017 entry

Stage	US round 2016	International round 2016
Applications open	1 September 2016	1 September 2016
Application form deadline	12 October 2016	7 December 2016
Supporting documents deadline	14 days after submitting application	14 days after submitting application
Departmental nominations	October - November 2016	December - February 2017
Shortlisting	Mid-December 2016	Early March 2017
Interviewees contacted	Late December 2016	Early March 2017
Interviews	27 & 28 January 2017 (D.C.)	28 & 29 March 2017 (Cambridge, UK)
Scholarships offered	Within a week of interview	Within a week of interview



Scholars & alumni

Gates Cambridge Scholars

A vibrant, international & diverse community integrated with the University

- Diverse community
- Scholars' Council and events
- Scholars' Common Room
- Integrated with University
- Many opportunities
- High expectations



Our scholars

Engaging with global challenges



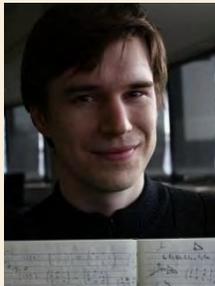
Timothy Kotin (Ghana)

As an undergraduate developed an on-line platform to increase educational opportunities for young Africans.



Rajiv Chowdhury (Bangladesh)

15 high-impact publications on heart disease at Cambridge; Fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health; inaugural recipient of Bill Gates Sr. Prize.



John Ottem (Norway)

Won Fulbright and McKinsey Scholarships and prizes in mathematical Olympiads in Oslo; published five high-impact papers at Cambridge.



Stan Wang

Recognised by U.S. Department of State, UNESCO and others for work on maternal-child health in Ghana; currently researching non-embryonic stem cells supervised by Nobel Prize Winner Sir John Gurdon.



Isaac Holeman (USA)

Named one of top 30 social entrepreneurs in Forbes magazine; co-founder of MobileMedic.



Libby Blanchard (USA)

Raised several million dollars for sustainable coffee farming in Latin America before coming to Cambridge.

Our alumni

A global network

A global network with increasing recognition and influence

- Aim – global network
- 1,000+ alumni from 90 countries spread across the globe
- Gates Cambridge Alumni Association (GCAA)



Our alumni

Making an impact



Noa Epstein (Israel)
MBA woman of the year at Cambridge; CEO of Middle East Education through Technology.



Siza Mtimbiri (Zimbabwe)
Advised government of Togo on education; currently leading a project to build top-flight school in Zimbabwe.



Joe Bonneau (USA)
Fellow, Center for information Technology Policy at Princeton University; regularly quoted in media on cyber security.



Chandler Robinson (USA)
Developed, manufactured and sold a potentially therapeutic drug for Wilson's Disease.



Robyn Scott (New Zealand)
Author, social entrepreneur and Co-founder of OneLeap and Mothers for All.



Julia Fan Li (Canada)
Director of \$94m Global Health Investment Fund underwritten by Gates Foundation and sponsored by other major organisations and governments.

Further information

Website

- www.gatescambridge.org

Need more information?

- Email: info@gatescambridge.org

All Cambridge funding opportunities

- 'Funding search' page -
<http://webservices.admin.cam.ac.uk/camfunds/>

QUESTIONS

