



# The Anglo-Danish Society

*Scholarship Reports November 2019*

## **60 Years of Scholarships**



*Photo: Mia Buerk*

*HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO*

*Protector of the Scholarship Programme*

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Single membership £25

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Reg. Charity No.: 313202

## *Learning more than just the curriculum*

Dear Members,

This year we are celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Scholarship Programme. In 1924 the Society was founded on the positive aim of bettering relations between our two great countries.

Its involvement with the Anglo-Danish Fund to assist British children with tuberculosis to travel to Denmark for treatment in the post-WWII years was a continuation of this approach - working together for the good of others.

Since 1959, when our first Scholarship was granted to a female Danish graduate, thanks to a gift from the Lord Inverforth Endowment Fund, we have sought to help British and Danish students pursue their postgraduate education in respective countries. This investment in our youth is very much part of the original ethos and is a key element of our approach today.

The reports from our 2018 Scholars in this year's Scholarship Newsletter again show the quality of our students and the benefits that they receive from our support, giving them the opportunity to study and also to enjoy the broader experience of living in another country.

With your support, I hope that we can continue to provide such assistance to young men and women from the UK and Denmark for many years to come.

Wayne Harber OBE, K

Chairman



# Ove Arup Foundation



Dominique Hoehn

As part of my PhD on the anthropology of architecture at the University of Cambridge, I spent more than a year doing fieldwork in Copenhagen.

This stay was made feasible with financial support from, and thanks to, the Anglo-Danish Society and the Ove Arup Foundation.

During this time, I was affiliated with the Institute of Architecture, Urbanism & Landscape at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Schools of Architecture, Design and Conservation (KADK).

I benefitted immensely from the intellectual environment provided by KADK.

The fieldwork stay in Denmark has been absolutely crucial to my research as it has provided me with the empirical basis for my doctoral studies.

It has allowed me to meet and talk to relevant stakeholders, be present in Copen-

hagen and attend events, as well as experience and observe recent developments in the Danish architectural scene first-hand.

I am an anthropologist who studies design practices and, thereby, architects.

The initial problem that I was interested in was:

How are future cities designed?

What information do urban decision-makers consider, and what does it mean to make design 'scientific'?

This project set out to examine the practices of contemporary Danish urban design in the context of an increasing drive towards what is called 'evidence-based design' (EBD) and claims to build a 'science of cities' in Europe and elsewhere.

This research is necessary and important as the built environment sector is currently undergoing rapid change.

Architects and designers are developing - and policy-makers are demanding - so-called new, sustainable urban solutions in response to the challenges that worldwide trends towards urbanisation and migration throw open.

Technological innovations, the potentials of digitalisation and big data, new construction techniques and other types of 'scientific' insights seem to promise answers to accommodate more people in cities with improved living conditions and better quality of life.



BLOX - Copenhagen Harbour

The Danish architecture scene sees itself at the forefront of this endeavour, combining technological inventions with 'smart' urban planning and a 'people-centred' approach.

My ethnographic fieldwork in Copenhagen has especially centred on the new building on Copenhagen's harbour front, BLOX, that was officially opened in May 2018. BLOX is the new home of the Danish Architecture Centre as well as the home of the urban innovation hub called BLOXHUB.

BLOX serves as a case study to examine these trends in practice, especially as the organisations and companies working in the building are at the forefront of establishing and promoting these developments in Denmark.

Thus, my research contextualises what 'evidence-based design' means in practice in Denmark to contextualise and evaluate the implications of a 'science of cities' – especially with reference to the history of urban design and the failures of modernist urban planning.

In the coming academic year, I will be writing up my PhD and publish my findings in relevant journals and present at conferences.

None of this would have been possible without the generous support from the Anglo-Danish Society and the Ove Arup Foundation, and I am very grateful for this assistance.

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## Master of Architecture - Urbanism & Societal Change



Archie Cantwell

Since being awarded the Ove-Arup Foundation scholarship 2018-19 by The Anglo-Danish Society, my research at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts has focused on exploring methods to communicate complex spatial issues to the general public.

Profound political and economic shifts over the past fifty years have broadened how housing is produced, whilst access to that discussion seems to have narrowed. Recent developments such as 'fake news' have alienated public and civic interests from debates that would likely shape the future of housing policy and practice.

As skilled communicators, might architects yet have an important role to play in advocating for more accessible discussions?

Unfolded through the language of documentary film, *'Not by Bricks Alone'* takes Dublin's deepening housing crisis as a critical point of departure to examine urgent responses. As hinted by the title, the objective of the film is not to apply narrow spatial solutions, but to offer a broad reformulation of the problem. On-site interviews with five leading local voices in the current debate aim to shed light on the growing rift between public policy and public housing.

Ireland's boom-economy narrative, boasting the fastest growing GDP in Europe (7% per annum), has masked an al-

together more shameful statistic: that of 10,000 citizens without a home, two thirds of whom are families and one third are children. For the additional 100,000 placed on a precarious housing waiting list, the question of who has a right to a home in Ireland is increasingly pressing.

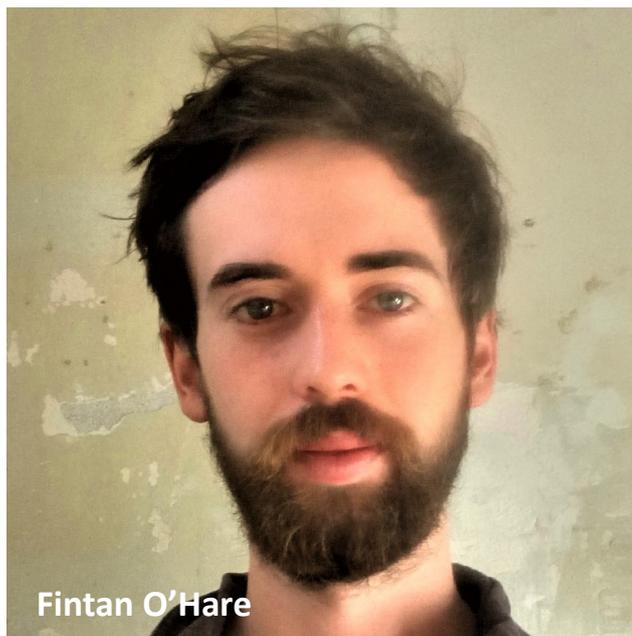


Though housing rights activists in Dublin desperately fight for change, their underlying movements often lack the coherency necessary to make their demands clearly understandable. Yet across multiple cities in France, the United States and Hong Kong, we have seen yellow vests, pink hats and black umbrellas raised as powerful symbols to unite public debate. What then for Ireland?

With the ambition of promoting a conversation that might hold sway in Irish public opinion, the documentary experiments with a propositional register that could be shared as part of a wider campaign, through social media channels and beyond.

I am indebted to the Anglo Danish Society and the Ove Arup Foundation for their generous support during production of this film and thank them greatly.

## Masters in Composition, Royal Danish Academy of Music



In 2017 I moved from London to Copenhagen to study for a Masters Degree in Composition at the Royal Danish Academy of Music. The college is a fantastic place to study as I have been surrounded by talented musicians, composers and teachers with a range of perspectives.

Copenhagen has a lively contemporary music scene with festivals and concerts that are attended by a supportive audience, and the country itself has a long history of classical music composition and performance.

While Studying I have built a portfolio of compositions for a variety of instrumentalists and singers, mainly focused on writing using small fragments of material combining noise and pitch based sounds.

My thesis explores the rhythm of speech, and finding different ways of



generating speech-like rhythms for use as musical material.

The one-to-one composition lessons at the college have been really useful for my development as a composer and, throughout the academic year, I have taken part in a number of workshops and concerts.

These include a trip to Stuttgart, where I worked with Neue Vocalsolisten on a piece exploring different filtrations of text.



The workshop was followed by a concert at the Royal Danish Academy of Music and it was great to be able to work with such fantastic musicians. The

## Masters in Writing for Performance, Goldsmiths University

concert has been repeated in Stuttgart at Theaterhaus.

I also had a second performance of a vocal piece using combinations of sung vowels, performed by the Danish Radio Vocal Ensemble at Rundetaarn Biblioteksal in Copenhagen.

Later in the year I participated in the DKDM Pulsar Festival 2019, with different pieces for voice, guitar and percussion and a small motorised installation at CUBE.

The piece for guitar developed rhythmic material and noise-based sounds from printers, clockwork mechanisms and other mechanical objects.

Now that I have finished my degree I will be using the skills and experience I have gained during the past two years as I work as a freelance composer and musician in Denmark and the UK.

The funds that I received this year have been crucial in allowing me to continue my studies in Copenhagen to the end of my Masters degree, and I would like to thank the Anglo-Danish Society for their support.

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First of all, I must thank the Anglo-Danish Society for its support!

It has been key in making these studies in Writing for Performance at Goldsmiths University of London possible for me.

I chose this specific degree, and Goldsmiths as an institution, for its focus and interdisciplinary collaboration and experimentation, and now, at the end of the year, I can say that the studies have furthered my artistic practice tremendously.

There are no Masters Degree programmes in playwriting or performance writing available in Denmark so being able to come to London and educate myself further at this highly esteemed institution has been quintessential in order for me to enter into the field of theatre professionally.

During this year I have been introduced to working in a variety of genres that were new to me, such as site-specific



performance, adaptation and writing for young performers. I have undertaken academic studies in the theory of acting, so as to better understand the possibilities for collaboration available to me as a playwright.

Since January, I have been working on my final project, a performance script called *15 Studies in Sports* - a full length piece, which I now have the option of pitching to theatres in both the UK and Denmark. An excerpt was showcased in the SoHo Theatre on 20 June.



For this project I have delved into the world of sports, queer performance traditions and cabaret, in order to create an expression hybridizing physical theatre, poetry and drag. Feedback from my tutor and fellow students, and research support available through Goldsmiths, have all been key resources in my exploration of this new territory. As a result of taking this Masters degree, my artistic practice is expanding in new and exciting directions. My studies at Goldsmiths have already created new professional opportunities for me in Denmark – I have been headhunted to work as a theatre critic for the national Danish newspaper *Dagbladet Information* upon my return, on the basis of the combination of my previous experience and the knowledge gained on this Goldsmiths Masters Degree programme. Furthermore, I am excited to pursue playwrighting opportunities with theatres in Denmark.

## PhD in Social Anthropology with Visual Media



Kristian Hoeck

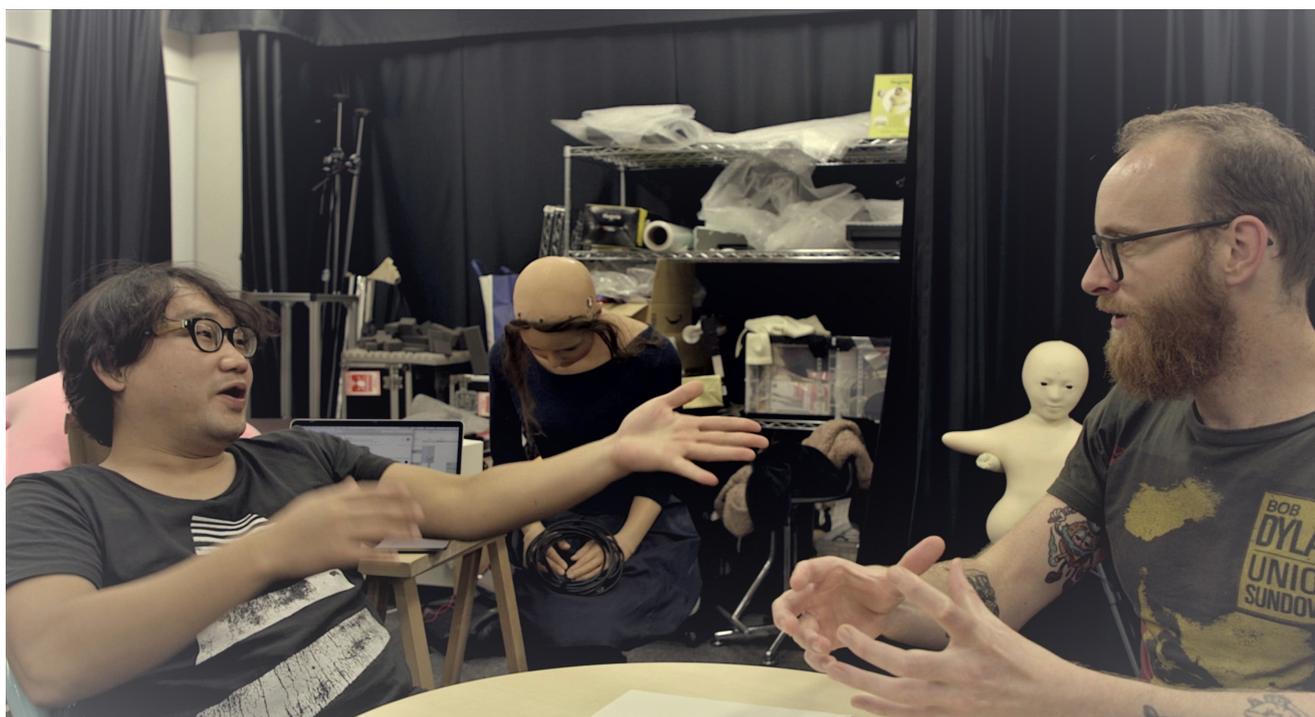
In autumn 2018 I completed one year of fieldwork for my PhD at the University of Manchester.

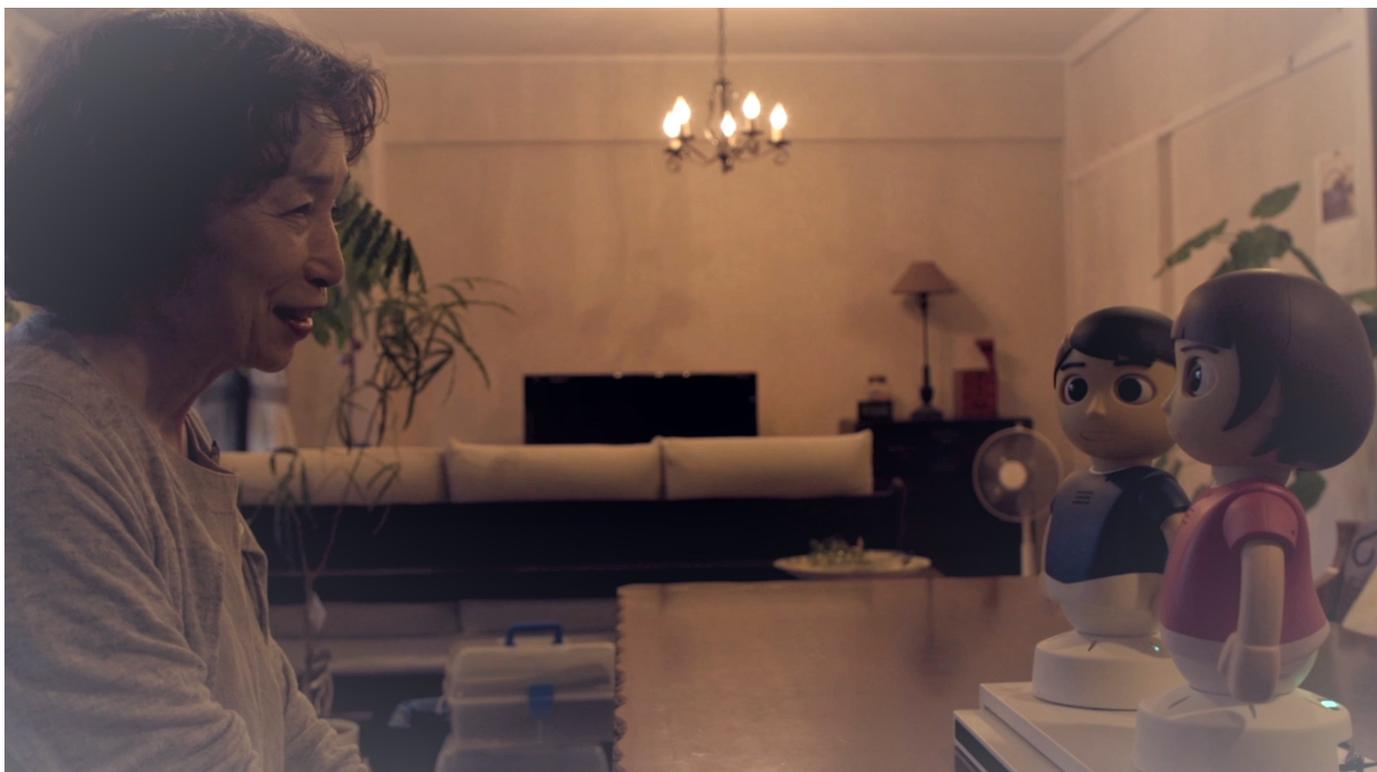
My fieldwork was centred on the Intelligent Robotics Laboratory (IRL) at Osaka University in Japan. As an anthropologist I am deeply invested in how people make sense of what it means to be human and how that meaning is contingent on the methods, tools and representations used. Humanoid robotics for me was a place where these issues stand at

the centre of the laboratory's experimental imaginarium.

Within IRL, I followed the work of the eccentric roboticist Hiroshi Ishiguro, his staff of researchers, his research students and, not least, their fascinating humanoid robots. The laboratory is renowned for their life-like androids, some of which are made in Hiroshi Ishiguro's own image, and their work on creating humanlike, social beings in robotic forms. Throughout my investigation I have followed the creation of, experimentation with and presentation of their humanlike androids and how this work grapples with the fundamental issue of what it means to be human.

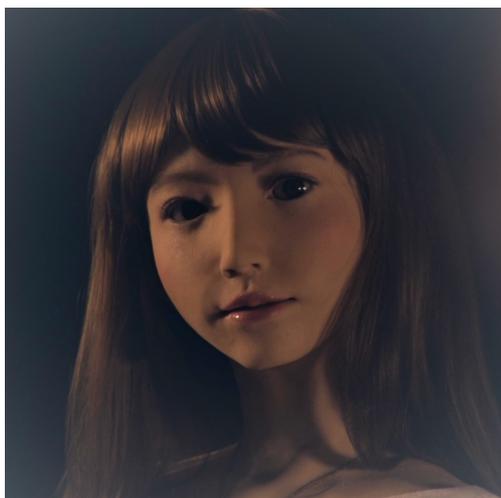
I have undertaken this research at Manchester University because its anthropological department is at the forefront of visual anthropology. As I am a filmmaker and, as a robotic laboratory offers an abundance of visual imaginaries and strange humanoid artefacts, a PhD in visual anthropology at Manchester was the





perfect fit for my research profile. With the support from The Anglo-Danish Society I managed to afford this field research and the technical equipment needed to produce a series of short films in collaboration with the researchers at IRL. I come back from the fieldwork with many hours of film material and excellent insight into the daily life of the work at IRL.

In my research, I offer a detailed account of what 'counts' as human for the IRL researchers, both in terms of what kind of human qualities the robots should exhibit and the way human social life is framed, structured and performed in



particular ways by roboticists with the robots as the medium. The robots are not neutral actors, I argue, but idealized embodied forms of human behaviour. How they are created, coded and set up to behave reveals the researchers' ideals about proper human behaviour. IRL's work has implication for how social life should be structured and what human qualities are deemed worthy to reproduce in robotic forms. The robots are not only models *of* humans, they become models *for* how humans should behave towards one another. In a field that increasingly influences society at large, these robots thus become powerful prototypes for emerging ideals about human society.

I am currently engaged in writing-up and editing all of the material collected during my fieldwork. Once I complete my PhD degree, I plan to continue my career as a researcher within the university and to continue investigating the social life of emerging human-centred technologies like robots and their consequences for society at large.

## PhD Experimental Particle Physics, University of Edinburgh



One of the greatest open questions facing modern physics is the seeming existence of so-called Dark Matter. Cosmological observations suggest that only 15% of all matter in the universe is of the ordinary kind that makes up everything we encounter in our day-to-day lives. The remainder appears to be an exotic, transparent or 'dark' kind, the nature of which we currently do not understand.

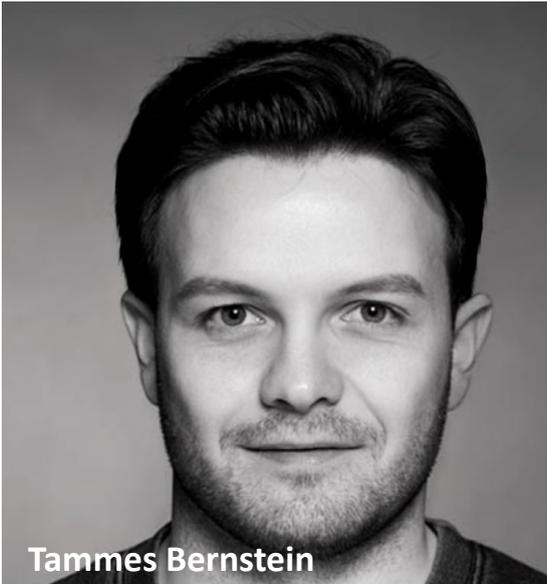
No description of the Universe, and the laws that govern it, can be complete if we do not understand the nature of the vast majority of matter. One approach is therefore to try to produce Dark Matter under controlled conditions in the particle collisions at the CERN Large Hadron Collider. As a PhD student at the University of Edinburgh I worked on a search for Dark Matter with the ATLAS experiment, which has helped us understand what Dark Matter is and, just as importantly, what it is not, in order to gain a better understanding of this large, 'dark' sector of the universe. In addition, I have worked on developing and using advanced machine learning techniques which are now being used to improve the sensitivity of the next generation of Dark Matter searches at ATLAS. These are among the most

complex algorithms in use in ATLAS, but also have possible uses outside of physics. For example, they can be used to ensure that automated processes such as university applications or bank loan approvals are not biased by age, gender, sexuality, ethnicity and so on. My work therefore has the potential for cross-sectoral impact and knowledge-exchange.

The support I have received through the Anglo-Danish Society Scholarship has directly enabled me to attend two important conferences in my field: BOOST in Paris (FR) in July 2018 and ACAT in Saas-Fee (CH) in March 2019. This allowed me to present the work I have carried out during my PhD and to learn from eminent researchers from around the world. For this, I am very grateful to the Society. The past four years in Edinburgh have been endlessly rewarding, including also the chance to meet the esteemed Professor Peter Higgs. Having just passed my PhD viva, I have therefore taken up a position as a post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Edinburgh, to continue improving our understanding of the physical world and strengthening the ties between the academic communities in Denmark and the UK in the process.



## MA Directing Fiction at the National Film & Television School



Tammes Bernstein

I was so lucky to be accepted into one of the best film schools in the world, the National Film and Television School in the UK, on Directing Fiction, one of its graduate programmes with only 8 students per year. It has been a lifelong dream for me to go to a film school to study directing and spend my time watching and making films.

Now the two years of studying is coming to an end, as we will be screening our final film at the graduation ceremony in London in February. The time has flown by, but looking back it has been an amazing time and an incredible experience.

In July we went to Scotland to shoot our



graduation film in an authentic and beautiful little coastal town called Saint Abbs. Around 30 people, including actors, spent a week in a nearby caravan park, with fully packed days of filming on the streets of Saint Abbs, on the harbour pier, in living rooms of some of the locals, in a near-by fish factory and on one of the fishermen's boat. Last week we



finished the editing process and have now begun the work on sound and music. It feels weird that this is the last project and with it my time at the school is going to be done soon, but I am excited for what the future will bring. I hope to continue staying in the UK and take up my directing career here in London. The Anglo-Danish Society kindly offered me a scholarship to aid me in undertaking my Masters degree and I cannot thank the Society enough for the massive help it was. London is an expensive city to live and study in and without the support from the Anglo-Danish Society, I would not have been able to successfully complete my studies. Thank you!

## Masters Degree in Quantum Physics, Niels Bohr Institute



Michelle Turley

This time last year I was awarded a scholarship by the Anglo Danish Society. In my application I focused on conveying my two passions, physics and travelling. I presented to the Scholarship Committee my reasoning for wanting to immerse myself in Danish culture, while also having the opportunity to work in an Institute which underpins the foundations of everything I work towards - Quantum Physics. One year on, I am privileged enough to say that I study at the Niels Bohr Institute, named after one of the founding fathers of Quantum Physics, Niels Bohr.

Having just finished the first year of my Masters here at NBI, I wanted to thank the Anglo Danish Society for its help in allowing me to be where I am today. I am more filled with passion and drive for my subject than I have ever been and I owe a huge part of my success in settling into this Institute, and Denmark, to the Anglo Danish Society. Among

many things, their scholarship allowed me to focus on my project. The project I undertook, which I will continue into the second year, focuses on the transport properties through quantum devices, particularly quantum nanowires. To highlight the relevance of this kind of project, it is helpful to take a look at the Quantum Industry. We collaborate with Microsoft who are at the forefront in this kind of research, particularly in the race to make quantum computers. One of the necessities of building a quantum computer (which has an exponential subspace to work in, compared to the traditional computer) is good wires which can transfer quantum information rather than classical information which we currently compute with. This is where projects like mine come into play; we work on quantum wire devices that could potentially work in a quantum computer or other applicable quantum devices. Other examples of this kind of application of quantum devices can be seen in new MRI machines that are used in hospitals that have much higher sensitivity than their traditional counterparts.

The Anglo Danish Society scholarship has helped me buy materials for my studies and has allowed me to travel to other universities within Denmark and Scandinavia to attend lectures and workshops by some of the most brilliant minds of our generation within this field.

This allowed me to learn, network and form connections within my industry, particularly across Denmark, which is invaluable.



*This photo was taken outside the Niels Bohr Institute. The small wires attached to the wall are actually lights that are connected and synchronised with particle collisions occurring at CERN!*

Beside academia, the scholarship also helped me immerse myself in Danish culture. For example, I bought a bike to help me travel around the city like a true Dane, and took and continue to take Danish lessons which I now have at A1 and A2 level.

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Liane Dupont

I have always been fascinated by viruses. Not by how they make us ill but how they in the process hijack our own cells to reproduce. Whilst the human cell is a hostile place filled with defence systems, viruses like HIV still manage to establish successful infections.

With my PhD at the University of Cambridge, I am trying to understand new mechanisms for how HIV manages to disarm host defences.

What I have discovered is that human cells have a system named the SMC5/6 complex which normally acts to repair our own DNA but is also able to shut down virus DNA. Whilst HIV DNA is susceptible to this defence, the virus has found a way to overcome it by taking out a key part of the complex. I am currently working to understand this viral escape in more detail. Not only is it novel to HIV biology, but it could also inform development of new therapeutics.

The support from the Anglo-Danish Society has been invaluable, allowing me to present my research to an international audience and discuss it with the leaders

# PhD Medical Sciences, University of Cambridge

in my field.

In May 2019, I gave an oral presentation at the 'CSHL Retroviruses Meeting' (New York, USA), the world's biggest conference in HIV biology. My work was received with great interest, which has since led to a collaboration with researchers from Emory University.

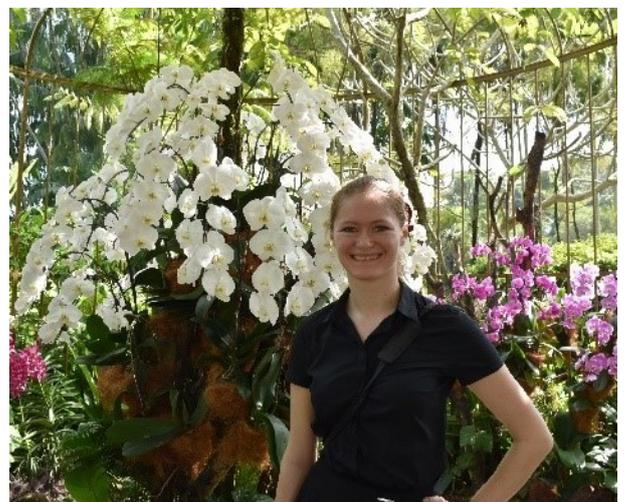
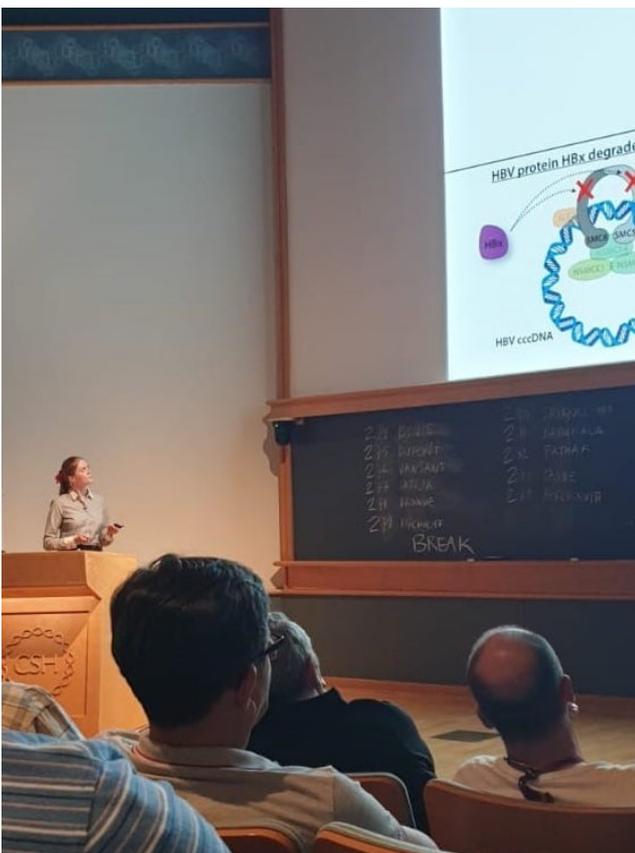
Furthermore, I represented Cambridge University at the 'Global Young Scientists Summit' in Singapore, an international meeting for 200 selected young scientists from top universities, with special attendance of 16 Nobel Prize and Fields Medal winners. Meeting the laureates was extremely inspirational and has motivated me to work even harder in my pursuit of academic success.

The past year has been academically very challenging but also marks a milestone in my scientific career.



My first research paper has just been published and my second publication will be ready by the end of this year. I am humbled that my work is now available to the research community and I very much hope it can provide a new step towards our understanding of HIV infections.

On that note, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to the Society members for supporting my studies. I am a proud ambassador of my Danish heritage and I hope my work will ultimately allow me to return to Denmark to build the research community and strengthen the UK-DK collaborations.



# SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARS APPEAL



## 60 Years of Scholarships

From its first award in 1959, the Anglo-Danish Society's charitable Scholarship Programme continues to grant scholarships for the purpose of post-graduate study or research to British and Danish students for study in the other country. It is an investment in our youth that underpins our aim of strengthening relations between Britain and Denmark.

This funding makes a real difference to the Scholars by enabling further research and providing them with an opportunity to enjoy the whole experience of living and working in another country – *to learn more than just the curriculum.*

The Society and its Scholarship Programme rely entirely on the work and commitment of its volunteers, with no paid staff, no overheads and very few ad-

ministrative costs and we need your help in raising funds to ensure that we can continue this valuable work.

**Please respond generously to this appeal.**

### Payments:

Bank transfer - to NatWest (please add your surname as the reference):

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The Honorary Treasurer, 40 Princes Way,  
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