



*Here are a few excerpts from the Case Statement we produced for the University of Oxford. You will enjoy some of the wording, perhaps be inspired, and even use some of the phrases for your own situation. The theme of the Case was **Audemus**— Latin for ‘to dare.’*

The University of Oxford makes a priceless and distinctive contribution to the lives of people all around the world. Our campaign will advance Oxford’s future potential to seek the unexplored, to deliver the highest quality of teaching and research, and to attract, nurture, and forge great minds . . .

We must have the courage to dare and plan boldly, and play our part in making this campaign a success . . .

The structures and resources essential for superb scholarship at Oxford grew and developed. They were made possible through striking gifts of philanthropy. Today, Oxford University is greatly recognized and celebrated across the globe. The University stands alone, *sui generis*, one of a kind. It is a glowing jewel in the crown of world learning. In a time too often replete with complacency and mediocrity, we harbor no patience or tolerance . . .

The spirit of learning at Oxford has won regard and affection of all who have studied here. Former Prime Minister William E. Gladstone wrote: “There’s not a man who has passed through this great and famous University who can say with more truth than I can that I love her, I love her, I love her from the bottom of my heart” . . .

We remain dedicated, as always, to the continuing quest to understand the nature of our Universe. We challenge hoary truths and principles. We cross old, worn thresholds. We know no boundaries . . .

Oxford’s place in the pantheon of world-leading universities is well known and demonstrable. Beyond that, there is also an intangible uniqueness to Oxford which is harder to define, but easy to see and feel. As never before, the world needs Oxford to excel at tackling the great challenges of our time . . .



Our past inspires us. It also demands that we aspire to even greater heights in the years to come. Despite all we have achieved— or perhaps because of it— Oxford remains fiercely and proudly ambitious for the future of learning and for our University . . .

We have led the world in the past. But ours is a mission larger than the ages. It is sufficiently grand to span into the next century and beyond. We face the future years with resolve and commitment . . .

There are outstanding universities in the world. Few are truly great. Some excel in particular areas of learning. But none, not one, can compare with Oxford's overall achievements and ranking in all aspects of its endeavors. Some would insist we are the most outstanding university in the world. Most would certainly say we are among that small, select group of the greatest . . .

Join us as we dare to act upon our vision for the future. We can ensure that Oxford remains a community of scholars unlike any other, for all the years to come. We dare do no less . . .

**[And what followed was a list of noted authors, UK Prime Ministers (22), and Prime Ministers of India, Canada, and a dozen other countries. And then the final paragraphs.]**

And what of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? Who will join this celebrated group?

Who now walks these hallowed halls to become tomorrow's Prime Ministers, great academicians and scientists, Nobel Laureates?

We educate the world, the new century's gifted men and women. This is our commitment. Our graduates will find the cures, lead governments, direct corporations, guide faculties, and solve some of the world's most puzzling dilemmas.

This is our destiny. We dare do no less.