Dear Woolf Friends,

At the start of each new year, I find myself thinking about the past 12 months and wondering what I’ll be reflecting on next January when I look back at the year just gone by. But with the Woolf Institute’s 25th Anniversary in 2023, we will be reflecting on not just one but 25 years of our institute from its early foundations to the thriving, vibrant place it is today.

We’ve been spending time recently going through early records, publications, photos of events, people, some gone, some very much still here, and the timeline of incredible achievements in this thorny, challenging world of interfaith relations. I find it very heart-warming to stop for a moment and remember all the people who contributed to the place we call the Woolf Institute and all we have achieved together. There will be time to look back during the coming year as we unroll our calendar of events, talks and parties, and we are producing a book about the history of the Woolf, collating all those achievements, memories and key moments. But most of all, we hope to gather our clan - our Woolf pack - of alumni, friends and current members to come together and celebrate.

As we move forward with our Woolf Diversity Study, a project on Mental Health, a project on Forgiveness, or most recently the Commission on the Integration of Refugees, and continue the work of our projects into so many other areas, I am both proud and occasionally sad. Proud to be part of a place which cares so deeply and tries to make a difference, and sad because much of the work is still so badly needed.
I am sure 2023 will bring its share of challenges, but I am also certain that we will encounter an abundance of goodwill, success and transformative outcomes. The enthusiasm and dedication of our students and academics, practitioners, trustees and supporters carries us into the new year - this milestone in the history of the Institute.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the year, and hearing from you even if you cannot join us in person. Please remember you are always part of the Woolf and that together, we can make a difference.

Best wishes,

Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner
Executive Director, Woolf Institute
Introducing our 25th anniversary logo!

This year the Woolf Institute celebrates its 25th year. Throughout the year we’ll be reminiscing about our early days, what we’ve accomplished so far, & how our work will continue to develop in our newsletter and on our social media channels.

London Patrons' Tour

Join us for a day in London exploring the interfaith history of this wonderful city.

26 January 2023

Contact Flora Moffie for more information
PODCAST: 8 BILLION AND COUNTING

The United Nations recently announced that by their estimate World population passed the 8 billion mark in November 2022. World population is predicted to continue growing, peaking at just over 10 billion in the 2080s. Is this too high a number and if so what should we do about it? Abdallah Rothman and Ed Kessler reflect …

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