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Council and Main Committees

Congregation 24 April

Degree by Resolution

This content has been removed as it contains personal information protected under data protection legislation. [Members of the University with a SSO account can log in to read the redacted content.](#)

Congregation 25 April

Declaration of approval of Resolutions approving the conferment of Honorary Degrees

No notice of opposition having been given, the Vice-Chancellor declared approved the resolutions concerning the conferment of honorary degrees.

Council of the University

Register of Congregation

The Vice-Chancellor reports that the following names have been added to the Register of Congregation:

Stephen James Blyth, Lady Margaret Hall
David Fawkner-Corbett, Clinical Medicine
Huw Thomas David, Wolfson
Amy Elizabeth Hinsley, Department of Biology
Alison Helen MacDonald, Kellogg
Upamanyu Pablo Mukherjee, Wolfson
Anthony Roberts, Lincoln
Thinethavone Emmanuel
Soutphommasane, Balliol

Congregation

Congregation 8 June

Elections

CONGREGATION ELECTIONS

Council
Buildings and Estates Subcommittee
Curators of the University Libraries
Curators of the University Parks
Curators of the Sheldonian Theatre
Delegacy for Military Instruction
Ethical Investment Representations Review Subcommittee
Nominations Committee
Panel for Constituting the Visitation Board under Statute XII Part C
Visitors of the Ashmolean Museum
Prevent Steering Group

DIVISIONAL BOARDS

Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Board
Social Sciences Board

FACULTY BOARDS

Board of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Board of the Faculty of Classics
Board of the Faculty of English Language and Literature
Board of the Faculty of History
Board of the Faculty of Law
Board of the Faculty of Music
Board of the Faculty of Philosophy
Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion

Details are in '[Elections](#)' section below.

Convocation 16 June

Election

PROFESSOR OF POETRY

Details are in '[Elections](#)' section below.

Note on procedures in Congregation

¶ Business in Congregation is conducted in accordance with Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002 (<https://governance.admin.ox.ac.uk/legislation/congregation-regulations-2-of-2002>). A printout of these regulations, or of any statute or other regulations, is available from the Council Secretariat on request. A member of Congregation seeking advice on questions relating to its procedures, other than elections, should contact Louise Hasler, Council Secretariat, University Offices, Wellington Square (email congregation.meeting@admin.ox.ac.uk); questions relating to elections should be directed to the Elections Officer, Ms S L S Mulvihill (email: elections.office@admin.ox.ac.uk).

Notices

Appointments

Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences

APPOINTMENTS

Vincent Cheval, PhD Laboratoire Spécification et Vérification, ENS Cachan and CNRS; Associate Professor in Computer Science and fellow of Balliol from 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2028

REAPPOINTMENTS

Stephan Rauschenbach, Associate Professor of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry and fellow of Wadham from 5 April 2023 until retirement

Musical and other Events

PhotOx Photography Society

Open to University staff and students: a friendly, creative environment, where University members passionate about photography will receive inspiration, technical advice and constructive feedback. Meetings take place on Mondays, weeks 1-8, in Regent's Park chapel or University Parks. More information and to register: email davidtolley@me.com from your University email account (subject line: PhotOx).

Lectures

Humanities

Faculty of Classics

PUBLIC LECTURE

Corrigendum

Dr Estel Baudou will give the guest lecture at the 2023 annual postgraduate symposium at 5pm on 29 June in the Ioannou Centre Lecture Theatre, 66 St Giles', and live streamed. All welcome - registration and symposium attendance not required. More information: <https://classics.web.ox.ac.uk/event/creative-precarities-performing-ruins-in-the-21st-century>.

Subject: 'Creative precarities: performing ruins in the 21st century'

Faculty of History

ASTOR LECTURE IN GLOBAL HISTORY

Professor Ken Pomeranz, Chicago, will give the Astor Lecture at 5pm on 10 May in the China Centre. Further information: <https://global.history.ox.ac.uk/event/astor-lecture-global-history-why-china-so-big-rethinking-realm-and-its-subjects-under-qing>.

Subject: 'Why is China so big? Rethinking the realm and its subjects under the Qing'

Institutes, Centres and Museums

Bodleian Libraries

LYELL LECTURES: IN THE SCHOLAR'S WORKSHOP: AMANUENSES IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE

Ann Blair, Harvard, will give the Lyell Lectures at 5.15pm on the following days in the Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre, Weston Library.

23 May: 'Amanuenses in the *longue durée*'

25 May: 'Invisible and visible'

30 May: 'Mechanical and intellectual'

1 Jun: 'Complicating attributions'

6 Jun: 'Shaping legacies'

Examinations and Boards

Examinations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

This content has been removed as it contains personal information protected under data protection legislation.

[Members of the University with a SSO account can log in to read the redacted content.](#)

Elections

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Elections 8 June

Please note: in the lists below, the names listed are simply those of the persons currently in office, whose terms of office are now coming to a close (thereby prompting all the vacancies now advertised for election).

Call for nominations

The nomination period for the elections below will close at **4pm on 11 May**. For further information, please contact elections.office@admin.ox.ac.uk.

An online session at **9.30am on Tuesday, 25 April** will provide an opportunity for those interested in standing for election or becoming involved in University governance to ask questions about the process and find out what it is like to serve on University committees. If you would like to join this informal session with current committee members and members of the University's Governance Team, please contact elections.office@admin.ox.ac.uk.

Congregation elections

COUNCIL

- One member of Congregation elected by Congregation from members of the faculties in the Divisions of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences and of Medical Sciences, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Professor Kia Nobre]
- One member of Congregation elected by Congregation from members of the faculties in the Divisions of Humanities and of Social Sciences, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Fra' John Eidinow]

Nominations from a diverse range of Congregation members are encouraged, particularly those from underrepresented groups.

The terms of reference and membership of Council are set out in [Statute VI](#). Council is chaired by the

Vice-Chancellor and meets on Mondays of Weeks 1, 4 and 9 of each term (Week 8 in Michaelmas term) and in July and September. Meetings begin at 2pm and usually last for 2-3 hours. Members of Council are the University's charity trustees and have a responsibility for ensuring that Council conducts itself in accordance with accepted standards of behaviour in public life, embracing selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. They must also play an appropriate part in ensuring that the business of Council is carried out effectively, efficiently and in a manner appropriate for the proper conduct of public business. Key skills include the ability to see issues from all angles, to discuss and question without being adversarial, to accept collective responsibility for decisions and to exercise common sense across a broad range of matters.

Elected members of Council will ordinarily be expected to serve on a small number of other committees (typically between one and three, usually including at least one of the main committees of Council, ie Education Committee, General Purposes Committee, Personnel Committee, Planning and Resource Allocation Committee, Research and Innovation Committee).

For further information, please contact Lara McCarthy (lara.mccarthy@admin.ox.ac.uk).

BUILDINGS AND ESTATES SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

- One person elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Dr Kate Blackmon]

Buildings and Estates Subcommittee (BESC) is a subcommittee of the Planning and Resource Allocation Committee (PRAC). It is responsible for management and maintenance of the functional estate, except for matters which are the responsibility of divisions, the Capital Steering Group and other bodies. It considers and advises PRAC on the allocation of land and property and oversees repairs and maintenance programmes.

The terms of reference and membership are set out in [Part 10 of Council Regulations 15 of 2002](#).

For further information please contact the Secretary (sarah.gardner@admin.ox.ac.uk).

CURATORS OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

- Two members of Congregation elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Dr Georgy Kantor and Dr Sarah Ogilvie]

The terms of reference and composition of this body are set out in [Part 24 of Council Regulations 15 of 2002](#).

The Curators of the University Libraries meet 4 times per academic year (there are 2 meetings in MT, 1 in HT and 1 in TT). Meetings last about 2 hours and papers are circulated in advance. Curators are not expected to serve on additional subcommittees/groups (save for the Chair of the University Archives subcommittee, who is appointed by the curators from among their own number). The curators would welcome candidates with an interest in the work of the University Libraries.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (richard.ovenden@bodley.ox.ac.uk).

CURATORS OF THE UNIVERSITY PARKS

- One person elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* The Revd Dr Elizabeth Macfarlane]

The terms of reference for the Curators are set out in [Part 10 of Council Regulations 2 of 2004](#). The membership is set out at www.parks.ox.ac.uk/curators.

The Curators of the University Parks have charge of the Parks, including the Fishery in the Cherwell, and of any other land the care of which may be entrusted to them from time to time by the Buildings and Estates Subcommittee.

Curators normally meet on a termly basis on Tuesdays of Week 5, and at a fourth meeting in the long vacation when the principal item of business is to inspect the various areas of the Parks. Meetings last about 2 hours and papers are circulated in advance. Curators are not expected to serve on additional subcommittees/groups. The curators would welcome candidates with an interest in the Parks.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (aristea.gkontra@admin.ox.ac.uk).

CURATORS OF THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE

- Two members of Congregation elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Dr Pegram Harrison and Ms Gillian Hamnett]

The terms of reference and membership of this body are set out in [Part 8 of Council Regulations 2 of 2004](#).

The curators oversee the ceremonial and governance functions of the theatre, and monitor its use as a venue. They meet three times per year and meetings usually last between 1-2 hours.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (john.weston@admin.ox.ac.uk).

DELEGACY FOR MILITARY INSTRUCTION

- One member of Convocation elected by Congregation, to serve until the beginning of MT 2027 [*vice* Professor Chris Breward]

For further information, please contact the Secretary (david.parrott@history.ox.ac.uk).

ETHICAL INVESTMENT REPRESENTATIONS REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

- One member of Congregation elected by Congregation from members of the faculties in the Divisions of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences and of Medical Sciences, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Professor H Bhaskaran]
- One member of Congregation elected by Congregation from members of the faculties in the Divisions of Humanities and of Social Sciences, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Dr Isabel Ruiz]

Further information on the subcommittee can be found in [Part 29 of Council Regulations 15 of 2002](#).

The Ethical Investment Representations Review Subcommittee (EIRRS) is a subcommittee of the Investment Committee. It was established with effect from 26 April 2021 when responsibility for monitoring socially responsible policies and practices was transferred from the former Socially Responsible Investment Review Committee (SRIRC) to the Investment Committee (see

[Gazette No 5297, 10 December 2020, p166](#)).

The subcommittee considers representations concerning ethical or socially responsible investment relating to the University's Investment Policy Statement and will make recommendations to the Investment Committee.

EIRRS typically holds an annual meeting as well as on an ad hoc basis determined by the need to discuss any relevant representations that have been received. Meetings can last for between 30 minutes and an hour. The subcommittee would welcome candidates with a range of knowledge and interests in environmental, social and governance topics.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (taylor@ouem.co.uk).

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- Two members of Congregation elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Anne Harkness and The Revd Professor William Whyte]

The role of the Nominations Committee is to recommend candidates for external membership of Council, and to keep under review the criteria for the selection and election of members. Candidates should have an understanding of the work of Council and of the qualities required in an external member. The committee has ten members, including three members of Council (two external), the Assessor, two representatives of the faculties and four members of Congregation elected by Congregation. The committee meets on an ad hoc basis when a vacancy arises on Council; this means that there will sometimes be lengthy periods between meetings followed by a more intense period of activity, with several meetings and interviews taking place in a single term.

The terms of reference and membership are set out in [Part 26 of Council Regulations 15 of 2022](#).

For further information, please contact the Secretary (louise.hasler@admin.ox.ac.uk).

PANEL FOR CONSTITUTING THE VISITATORIAL BOARD UNDER STATUTE XII PART C

- Two members of Congregation required to engage in academic teaching and/or research either by their written contracts of employment or by established and agreed practice elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Dr Chrystalina Antoniadou and Dr Elizabeth A Gemmill]

The Visitation Board is able to hear employment matters (complaints and dismissals) where there is a question of academic freedom to be resolved, though for a first hearing the staff member may elect to instead have the matter heard by an employment review panel. The board consists of 4 members selected from a panel of 12 members of Congregation, who must be engaged in teaching or research. The chair is an external appointee who brings legal experience and an external voice to the panel. The Visitation Board meets rarely (the last time was in 2016); it previously had a wider remit but this was significantly limited when Statute XII was amended in 2017. However, being a panel member is an important role as it is essential that the University is able to form a board so that a hearing can take place if required.

The terms of reference and membership are set out in [Part C of Statute XII](#).

For further information, please contact the Secretary (louise.hasler@admin.ox.ac.uk).

VISITORS OF THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM

- One member of the Social Sciences Division elected by Congregation, to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Dr David Griffiths]

Further information on the visitors can be found in [Council Regulations 2 of 2019](#).

The visitors are responsible under Council for the safe keeping, preservation, orderly administration and general policy of the museum. The board meets five times a year and meetings usually last 3-4 hours. The role of the Congregation-elected members is to represent their division in the museum and represent the museum within their division. The board would welcome members with

an understanding of the potential of the University museum and its collections to support the University's teaching and research agendas.

For further information, please contact the Secretary: (xa.sturgis@ashmus.ox.ac.uk).

PREVENT STEERING GROUP

- One member of Congregation elected by Congregation to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* Roscoe Hastings]

The Prevent Steering Group is responsible for: (i) ensuring that appropriate policies and practices are in place to comply with the Prevent Duty guidance in a risk-based, proportionate manner; (ii) monitoring the University's implementation of the Prevent Duty; and (iii) advising Council on the implementation of the Prevent Duty, such that Council is able to comply with the requirements of the monitoring authority (Office for Students). The Steering Group is currently chaired by the University Registrar and comprised of representatives from the academic divisions, elected members of Congregation, UAS and the Oxford University Student Union. Meetings are held in Michaelmas and Trinity terms and usually last for around one hour.

The terms of reference and membership are set out at <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/prevent/steering-group>.

On 31 May 2016, Congregation approved 'That the University's Prevent Steering Group be afforded with a minimum of five elected members of Congregation by 0th week MT 2016'. This election will be conducted under the regulations set out in [Part 8 of Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002](#).

For further information, please contact the Secretary (sarah.cowburn@admin.ox.ac.uk).

Divisional Boards

MATHEMATICAL, PHYSICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES BOARD

- One person elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of Chemistry to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Professor Stuart MacKenzie]
- One person elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of Mathematics to serve until the start of MT 2027 [*vice* Professor Dmitry Belyaev]

The board meets twice a term, on Fridays of Weeks 2 and 7, with meetings lasting for up to 2 hours. The MPLS Board is the primary legislative body for the division, but also acts as a forum for strategic discussion and a conduit for leading and facilitating change. Recent meetings have included sessions on inclusive chairing of meetings, neurodiversity, and the MPLS financial position and Five-Year Plan. Each meeting starts with a short 'science highlight' from a department which showcases the excellent research found across the division and reminds the board why we are all here.

MPLS welcomes nominations from staff who would bring a diversity of points of view to discussion. That might include, but is not limited to, working in an interdisciplinary research area, perspectives gained from working outside Oxford, or staff at earlier career stages or from under-represented groups.

For further information, please contact the Divisional Registrar (tracy.gale@mpls.ox.ac.uk).

SOCIAL SCIENCES BOARD

- One member elected by and from the academic members of the Department of International Development, to serve until the start of MT 2025
- One member elected by and from the academic members of the Oxford Internet Institute to serve until the start of MT 2025

Under the regulations governing the composition of divisional boards, the above vacancies fall within the single constituency of 'two persons elected on a rotational basis by and from academic members of the following units of the division, with each person serving a two-year period of office: (a) the Department for International

Development; (b) the Oxford School of Global and Area studies; (c) the Department of Sociology; (d) the Oxford Internet Institute; (e) the Department of Social Policy and Intervention; (f) the School of Anthropology; (g) the Institute of Archaeology and Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art; (h) the Blavatnik School of Government’.

The last units elected to this constituency were (i) Institute of Archaeology and Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art and (ii) Blavatnik School of Government.

The board meets twice a term and meetings generally last for around 2 hours. For further information about the board, please contact the Secretary (mark.mcdermott@socsci.ox.ac.uk).

Faculty Boards

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

- Two persons elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* Professor Marilyn Booth and Professor John Lowe]

The board meets twice a term, on Thursdays of Weeks 2 and 7, and meetings typically last for 1½ hours. The board aims to include within its membership a balance of experience and ‘perspective’, including a diverse range of experienced academics, those newer to the faculty and members from different subject areas.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (thomas.hall@orinst.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF CLASSICS

- Three persons elected by and from among the members of the Subfaculty of Ancient History and Classical Archaeology to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* Dr Katherine Clarke, Professor Nicholas Purcell and Professor Andrew Wilson]
- Three persons elected by and from among the members of the Subfaculty of Classical Languages and Literature to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* Professor Fiona Macintosh, Professor Tobias Reinhardt and Professor Andreas Willi]

For further information, please contact the Secretary (administrator@classics.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

- Four persons elected by and from the members of the faculty of English Language and Literature, one to serve until the start of MT 2024 (*vice* Dr David Russell) and three to serve until the start of MT 2025 (*vice* Dr Gareth Evans, Dr Freya Johnston and Dr Stuart Lee)

The board meets twice a term, in week 3 (1 hour) and week 8 (2 hours). There are no particular skills or experience which is required, but we do try to ensure that the membership of the board includes representatives of all period/subject groups in the faculty as well as college-only and early career colleagues.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (sadie.slater@ell.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF HISTORY

- Five persons elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of History holding posts on the establishment or under the aegis of the board, one to serve until MT 2024 (*vice* Sheilagh Ogilvie) and four to serve until MT 2025 (*vice* Professor Erica Charters, Professor David Prestland, Professor Andrew Thompson and Dr Lucy Wooding)

The board meets twice a term and meetings are scheduled for 2 hours.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (administrator@history.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF LAW

- Four Official Members elected by all members of the faculty and from the persons qualified to be Official Members as per regulation 10 of Council Regulations 19 of 2002, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Professor Robert Stevens, Professor Horst Eidenmuller, Professor Wolfgang Ernst, Professor Luca Enriques]
- Nine Ordinary Members elected by and from all members of the faculty exclusive of the persons qualified to be Official Members as per Regulation 10 of Council Regulations 19 of 2002, to serve until the start of MT 2026 [*vice* Professor Fernanda

Pirie, Professor Angus Johnston, Professor Adam Perry, Professor James Goudkamp, Professor Justine Pila, Professor Sanja Bogojevic, Professor Tsilly Dagan, Professor Ruth Chang, Professor Matt Dyson]

The terms of reference and membership of this board are set out in [Council Regulations 19 of 2002](#). The board meets twice a term (plus once in the long vacation) and meetings generally last for 2 hours.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (charlotte.vinnicombe@law.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF MUSIC

- Two persons elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of Music to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* Professor Michael Burden and Dr Leah Broad]

The board meets twice per term and board meetings generally last up to 2 hours.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (administrator@music.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY

- Three persons elected by and from among the members of the Faculty of Philosophy to serve until the start of MT 2024 [*vice* Professor Alison Hills, Dr Philipp Koralus and Professor Mark Wrathall]

The board meets 7 times a year (normally twice per term with an additional meeting in Hilary term) and meetings are generally 2 hours in length. Members are sometimes but not always expected to serve on subcommittees/working groups.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (haf@philosophy.ox.ac.uk).

BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION

- Four persons elected by and from the members of the Faculty of Theology and Religion, three to serve until the start of MT 2025 [*vice* The Revd Dr Michael Lloyd, Professor Justin Jones, Professor Katherine Southwood] and one to serve until the start of MT 2024 [*vice* Professor Mark Wynn]

The terms of reference and membership of this board are set out in [Council Regulations 19 of 2002](#). The board meets twice a term and meetings generally last for 1½-2 hours. Board members are expected to read the papers before the meeting. These include minutes of previous meetings, minutes of standing committees, papers and recommendations from standing committees, proposals and draft policy documents from University committees. The quantity of reading material varies, but when there are draft policy documents to consider, this can be of the order of 100 pages.

For further information, please contact the Secretary (haf@theology.ox.ac.uk).

Notes

Electronic elections

The elections on 8 June will be conducted electronically.

Nominations

Hard copies of nomination forms will not be processed. [Completed nomination forms](#) should be sent as an email attachment to the Elections Office (elections.office@admin.ox.ac.uk) by **4pm on 11 May**. **Please ensure that the nominators listed in section D are also copied into the email when the nomination form is submitted, as this will act as verification of the nomination in lieu of supplying original signatures.**

General requirements and eligibility

All candidates are asked to note the general requirements which apply to all committee members, as set out in [Council Regulations 14 of 2002 \(General Regulations of Council for Committees\)](#). Current members seeking re-election are also asked to check for specific restrictions on consecutive service. For further information, please see the [eligibility](#) and [amendments to nominations](#) sections within the [Information about University elections pages](#) of the [Elections website](#).

Candidate's statement

Candidates are invited to include with their nomination forms a written statement of no more than 250 words, setting out their reasons for standing and qualifications for the office being sought. In the event of a contested election, these statements will be published both online and in the *Gazette*.

Contested elections

In the event of a contested election, the successful candidates will be determined by an electronic ballot. An email with further instructions will be sent to eligible voters on Wednesday 24 May, using the email addresses provided in the electronic register of Congregation (NB with few exceptions, notably clinical staff, this will be the work address ending 'ox.ac.uk'). Candidates' statements will also be published in the *Gazette* dated 25 May. Voters may wish to read these statements before completing their electronic vote. The voting period will close at 4pm on 8 June.

Uncontested elections

If the number of nominations received by the closing date is no more than sufficient to fill the vacancies, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be duly elected as of the close of the nomination period on Thursday, 11 May. When required, places will be allocated according to academic standing, as defined in [Council Regulations 22 of 2002, Part 2: Academic Precedence and Standing](#). If the number of nominations received by the closing date is less than sufficient to fill the vacancies, those candidates nominated will be deemed elected unopposed, and the remaining vacancies will lapse, in which case, in accordance with the regulations, the places must remain vacant until appointments are made jointly by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors.

Period of office

All vacancies are from the beginning of MT 2023 unless otherwise stated. In accordance with Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002, in any election where vacancies are to be filled for periods of different length, the elected candidates shall hold office so that the tenure of those who receive more votes shall be longer than that of those who receive fewer votes; but if the election is uncontested or if two candidates receive the same number of votes, the candidate senior in academic standing shall hold office for the longer period.

Further information

For further information, please contact the Elections Office (elections.office@admin.ox.ac.uk).

Convocation

16 June

Election of the Professor of Poetry

An election by Convocation will be held in Trinity term 2023 in order to elect the Professor of Poetry, to hold office for 4 years from the first day of Michaelmas term 2023. A meeting of Convocation will be held at 3.45pm on 16 June to announce the results.

Further information on the Professorship is published on the University webpages: ox.ac.uk/poetry.

ELECTION PROCEDURES

This election will be conducted electronically by Civica on behalf of the University of Oxford. A shortlist of applicants has been drawn up by the Professor of Poetry Committee. The successful candidate will be determined by members of Convocation, who will be entitled to vote on the shortlist in Trinity term 2023.

All members of Convocation who wish to vote in the election must register their intention to vote. [Voter registration](#) opened on **24 March** and will close on **12 May**. Eligibility to vote in the election will be checked. An email will be sent to anyone whose registration to vote has been unsuccessful. Current status as a member of Convocation may be checked in advance of registration through the relevant College Secretary or Head of Administration.

Convocation

Convocation consists of all the former student members of the University who have been admitted to a degree (other than an honorary degree) of the University, and of any other persons who are members of Congregation or who have retired having been members of Congregation on the date of their retirement. Membership of Convocation is conferred automatically to members of Congregation whose names have been entered in the Register of Congregation and to Oxford degree-holders after having attended a formal degree ceremony (either in person or in absentia). The functions of Convocation are set out in the University Statutes ([Statute III: Convocation](#)).

Voting arrangements

Members of Convocation who have registered to vote will be entitled to vote electronically for one of the shortlisted candidates. Voting will be open from **18 May to 15 June**.

Result of the election

The result of the election will be announced in a meeting of Convocation at **3.45pm on 16 June** in Convocation House. Members of Convocation wishing to attend the meeting are asked to note that the wearing of gowns is optional. The result will subsequently be reported on the University's website and published in the *Gazette*.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Christian Bök

Thank you, Members of Convocation, for taking time to consider me for the Oxford Professorship of Poetry. I am a Fellow in the Royal Society of Canada, and (like the incumbent Alice Oswald) I have also won the Griffin Poetry Prize (earning it for my book *Eunoia*, which the writer Giles Brandreth has called: 'irresistible'). I am now on the verge of announcing to the world in early 2024 that, after decades of effort, I have used my skills in microbiology to create a work of 'living poetry,' entitled *The Xenotext* – a poem encoded into the genome of a deathless bacterium, able to survive forever in any environment. I have written a 'book' that might outlast our civilization – and if appointed to the professorship, I plan to highlight the historical resilience of poetry in the face of crises that imperil our future in times of tyranny, pandemic, and warfare, when critics often predict the death of poetry itself.

With more than thirty years of experience, addressing schools all around the world (promoting poetry from every continent, including, among other forms: Japanese *haibun*, Persian *ghazals*, Balinese *ketjacks*, and Russian *zaum*), I expect to fulfill my duties by keeping this persistent durability of poetry in mind, discussing an inclusive, equitable selection of perspectives across time in genres both conventional and experimental. If appointed, I foresee collaborating with my peers in the college to transect boundaries between disciplines, addressing topics that might demonstrate the aptness of poetry to other fields of study (particularly in the domain of natural science, where I have learned skills required to write poems that can literally transform the behaviour

of living things). I can deliver talks that invite engagement from areas outside the humanities, thereby highlighting the appeal of poetry to everyone.

I have dedicated my career to the study of 'limit-cases' in the history of poetry, writing lyric poems in books made from materials as varied as Lego tiles, Rubik's cubes, QR codes, AI chats, and DNA genes – often using the tools of scientific technology to escort poetry into the 21st century. I look forward to mentoring students from all walks of life during this professorship, offering my time openly to young poets, helping them to foster their talent so that they might thrive in their careers. I have benefited from the guidance of my own mentors, including the poet Charles Bernstein (the winner of the Bollingen Prize) – and the calibre of his diplomacy has provided the model for my own engagement with my community of peers. I have come to appreciate that I have no means by which to repay my debt of gratitude for such guidance, except by extending such an equal level of generosity to others.

With your support, I look forward to continuing my innovative endeavours under the aegis of All Souls College.

You can learn more about me at my website: <https://www.umlautmachine.net/ephemera/the-oxford-professorship>

And you can follow my activities on Twitter: [@christianbok](https://twitter.com/christianbok)

Mark Ford

In 1919 T.S. Eliot wrote of the 'peculiar personal intimacy', the 'overwhelming' sense of 'profound kinship' that a young writer may suddenly come to feel with a newly discovered poet. This passionate relation or connection may be experienced, Eliot explains, as both a crisis and as a decisive moment of transformation: within a matter of weeks the young writer may be 'changed, metamorphosed almost ... from a bundle of second-hand sentiments into a person'.

My belief in the power of poetry to transform would pervade all aspects of my approach to the Oxford Professorship of Poetry. Having spent nearly four decades involved in poetry from a variety of angles - reading it, writing it, writing about it, teaching it, editing it, translating it, delivering public lectures on it, giving poetry readings, and talking on radio features and podcasts - I am acutely conscious of the best ways of communicating my enthusiasm to diverse audiences.

On learning that I had been shortlisted for this post, I at once found myself considering the sorts of lecture I would like to give: provisional titles that came to mind ranged from 'It Is Later Than You Think: Poetry and Threat' to 'Langston Hughes, Derek Walcott, and the Deep South'; from 'Queer Pastoral: Gerard Manley Hopkins and A.E. Housman' to 'The Smile of Accomplishment: Self-Elegies from Christina Rossetti to Sylvia Plath'. I am especially interested in elegiac traditions, having just completed a book on Thomas Hardy's poems about his wife Emma. I am keen to expand this research and would use these lectures to address poetic commemorations of the dead by such as Elizabeth Bishop, Adrienne Rich, Denise Riley, Mick Imlah, Kei Miller, Jay Bernard, and Caleb Femi.

As a regular contributor to the *London Review of Books* and the *New York Review of Books*, I am experienced at presenting sophisticated critical arguments to a wide readership. I think of myself as at once a poet-critic in the tradition of Eliot and as a literary historian of British, American, and French poetry from 1800 to the present day. My publications include four collections of poetry, three volumes of essays (the most recent of which, *This Dialogue of One: Essays on Poets from John Donne to Joan Murray*, won the Poetry Foundation's 2015 Pegasus Award for Poetry Criticism), and monographs on Raymond Roussel and Thomas Hardy. Admirers of my own poetry include Helen Vendler, Marjorie Perloff, John Ashbery, Peter Gizzi, Daljit Nagra, and Sarah Howe.

This post will also involve organizing poetry events. For these I would replicate a format I have already developed at University College London, where I teach: work by a range of poets was circulated in advance of our annual 'Poets Poets Day', on which fellow poets and members of the public engaged in detailed and animated discussion with our chosen writers of the poems submitted. Participants agreed that this format worked extremely well, in its fusion of the rigours of practical criticism with attention to the empirical dilemmas confronting the contemporary poet.

Links:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/english/people/mark-ford>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrBxKhs_cJE
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Ford_\(poet\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Ford_(poet))
<http://www.poetryarchive.org/poet/mark-ford>

<https://www.lrb.co.uk/search-results?search=Mark+Ford>
<https://www.nybooks.com/contributors/mark-ford/>

Don Paterson

I have worked for decades as a poet, a university professor, a commercial editor and publisher, and a musician. Each role has developed my interest and insight into the gap between what we think poetry is or should be, and the way it actually comes into being and does its work in the world. But social networks, digital platforms, new media, the structure of the market, and (stealthily, but perhaps most significantly) AI are in the process of radically changing both poetry's readership and the nature of poetry itself. Poetry's new genres are recruiting diverse audiences, but they are often independent of one another; some are forging symbiotic relationships with other branches of culture. Poetry is undergoing a period of intense cultural redefinition, and the increasingly unstable relationship between poet and reader seems to call for some urgent interrogation.

Are all these verbal arts still part of the same word-game we call 'poetry'? Do we still share a working definition of talent, skill and inventiveness, of a tradition which fosters and embodies them? Should these older values maintain their primacy, or must they adapt to the more immediate claims of identity, inclusion and social conscience? Is the poetry of lived experience compatible with a poetry of the imagination? Is still true to claim that a poet is just 'one skilled in the making of verses', and that poems 'begin in delight and end in wisdom'?

Computers fast became an indispensable tool in music, without shaking the foundations of our notions of musical creativity and value. Will poetry survive the only serious technological change it has faced since Gutenberg, namely AI? Contemporary poetry may soon discover that it is only too easily imitable: where will this leave our virtues of originality, unique authorship, authenticity? Should poets be thinking like musicians, of ways new tech and AI might help them write better poems?

The professorship would allow me to address these questions through both lecture and public event - as well as the opportunity, I confess, to explore my own current obsessions: how a newly resurgent metropolitanism may be fuelling a regional poetry of 'alternative Englishes'

and of the UK's various national and ethnic identities; the shamefully neglected 'loner' women poets of the mid-20th century (rehabilitations still tend to focus on women associated with male-centred schools); the complex prosody of hiphop and rap; Seamus Heaney's little-imitated use of deep etymologies; and new insights from the field of cognitive poetics. I've written both technical monographs and books of 'popular literary criticism', and defended the latter as an alternative home for academic research; I have some experience in making new or esoteric ideas accessible to the much-maligned 'general reader' in whom I continue to place my faith. In a time of accelerating change, the professorship would offer a rare still moment in which to take stock of the past, assess the present cultural status and 'use' of the poem, and look to where it might be headed - as well as what it may yet achieve.

AE Stallings

The principal responsibility of this post—to deliver twelve original lectures on the subject of poetry—is right up my alley. As a freelance poet, translator, critic, and commentator based in Athens, I travel and lecture on poetry, poets and their craft, and the art of translation. I have delivered the Messenger lectures at Cornell (2012), the Triennial [Gilbert Murray lecture](#), Yale's Parry lecture (2023), and even a [TEDx talk](#). I have recently spoken on poets such as Byron, Cavafy, Homer, and Plath, on Classical reception, and on strategies of allusion - always seeking to bring into play a practitioner's view, an appeal to broad audiences, and a light touch.

As a reviewer, I have written on modern American, English, Canadian, Greek, Irish, and Afro-Caribbean poets. As a blogger, I have addressed "[sonnetude](#)," [Afro-formalism](#), the [business of blurbs](#), neo-formalism and the avant-garde. I've also written expansive essays on [literary shipwreck](#), on [refugees in Aegean literature](#), on [statues and ruin](#), and on poets and the Parthenon. Collaboration with the Faculties of English and Classics is certain to help me generate new themes during my tenure.

I enjoy teaching, and have served as faculty at US writers' conferences including Sewanee, Bread Loaf, West Chester, and Poetry by the Sea. For ten years I directed a workshop through the Athens Centre focused on form and generating new poems. Since 2016 I have run a weekly workshop in Athens with refugee women from Afghanistan, Iraq,

Syria, Iran, Ukraine, and Congo (DRC) at the [Melissa Network for Migrant Women](#). Our emphasis isn't only on war and the harrowing journey, but on the future, their authorship of their own stories. I would hope to collaborate productively with the University's Refugee Studies Centre.

As an American writer who has lived over twenty years in Greece, I bring a broad perspective on and knowledge of poetry that crosses borders and languages. As Oxford Professor of Poetry I would speak not only on anglophone poets, living and dead, but on translation, Classical poetry, and modern Greek poetry. Among the poets I have translated from are Lucretius, Virgil, Catullus, Horace, Hesiod, Dante, and Seferis.

I believe music is an essential element of poetry's intelligence. (Perhaps it's no coincidence many of my poems, such as <https://humanshields.bandcamp.com/track/aegean-blues> and <https://soundcloud.com/burnley-vest/song-for-the-women-poets>, have been set to music.) I am known for my interest in technique, especially in rhyme, meter, and stanza. (Of these, the most controversial tends to be rhyme, a subject I address playfully in this [Presto Manifesto!](#)) More of my thoughts on sound and pleasure in poetry can be heard in recent interviews with [Front Row](#) and [The Book Club](#). My website is here: <https://aestallings.wixsite.com/aestallings>.

I would keep an open door to discuss student work, would run workshops with members of the Oxford community, visit schools, arrange translation seminars, and host readings from American, foreign-language, and refugee poets. I would hope that published forms of many of my lectures would take their place among the wide-ranging and often provocative writings of previous Professors of Poetry.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Queries about the election should be sent to poetry.election@admin.ox.ac.uk. All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence.

Further information about election procedures may be found in [Council Regulations 8 of 2002](#).

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Faculty of History; Roy Foster Irish Government Research Fellowship in the History and Culture of Ireland; funded by the Irish Soldiers and Sailors Land Trust of the Irish Government, the Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust, the Normanby Foundation and the Porter Centre for Diplomacy at Hertford; open to those recently awarded a postgraduate degree or who are in the final stages of a postgraduate degree; accommodation, a maintenance grant and appropriate Senior Common Room dining rights; limited teaching may be available; 20 June; <https://history.web.ox.ac.uk/event/roy-foster-irish-government-research-fellowship-2023>

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Harris Manchester; part-time archivist (0.4 FTE); 12 May; www.hmc.ox.ac.uk/vacancies

Merton; 2-hr stipendiary Lectureship in Management (1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024); £5,558; noon, 22 May; www.merton.ox.ac.uk/vacancies

Pembroke; Accommodation Manager; £30,000–£36,000; 9 May; www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/vacancies

Trinity; part-time fixed-term stipendiary Lectureship in Modern Languages (Spanish) (0.5 FTE); £14,881–£16,674; noon, 24 May; www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/vacancies

Wycliffe Hall; Junior Dean at Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford; £3,636 stipend plus full living expenses; 5 May; www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk/vacancies

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