

# Gazette Supplement



## Congregation

### Congregation

7 May

A meeting will be held at 2pm on 7 May in the Sheldonian Theatre for the reading of the reply to the question made under Part 5 of Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002 at (1) below, and to put formally the legislative proposal at (2) and the resolution at (3) below to Congregation.

#### (1) Question under Part 5 of Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002

Under the provisions of Part 5 of Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002, the reply to the question below shall be read in Congregation; no debate shall be permitted upon the reply, but at the Chair's discretion supplementary questions may be asked to elucidate the reply given.

The replies, which appear under each question below, have been approved by Council.

Two members of Congregation (Peter P Edwards, St Catherine's; Duncan Robertson, St Catherine's) to ask Council: 'Will Council present to Congregation before (a) inviting it to create "Parks College" as a new Society of the University under Statute V (6) or (b) asking it to approve under Statute XVI, A,4 the allocation to "Parks College" of the Radcliffe Science Library or space within that building or any other sites a Full Report on the following:

(i) Given that it is usual to publish a Consultative Notice<sup>1</sup> on matters affecting departments of the University, Colleges and Halls, that such a Notice was published during the framing of the current Strategic Plan, and a further such Notice was published in the *Gazette* of 14 February by the IT Committee 'following the publication of the

University's Strategic Plan 2018-23', why was no such Consultative Notice published before the press was informed on 7 December of the proposal to create what is currently called "Parks College"?'

*Reply:* The Strategic Plan 2018-23, approved by Congregation on 30 October 2018, sets out the University's aims and priorities for the period covered by the Plan, including in the Education theme 'the establishment of at least one new graduate college' by 2023. Those aims and priorities were the subject of consultation over two academic terms, both online and in a series of open meetings, culminating in a meeting of Congregation in October 2018. It is not intended to publish consultative notices on every step that will be taken to implement the Strategic Plan 2018-23. The announcement of the initial proposals for Parks College was contained in *Blueprint Bulletin* emailed to all staff, and published on the staff news website on 7 December 2018<sup>2</sup> on the basis that plans for the new society and the allocation of space would subsequently be put to Congregation for approval. In advance of this, a series of question and answer sessions were held in March and three Focus Groups are being held in April and at the beginning of May. However, in this instance it is acknowledged that publishing a formal notice in the *Gazette* in addition to the other communications might have been helpful to inform Congregation of the developing plans at an early stage.

'(ii) Given that a Strategic Plan Programme Board has been set up chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, will Regulations be created for its governance and will its membership, Agenda and Minutes be published?'<sup>3</sup>

(iii) To what authority in the University is the Strategic Plan Programme Board immediately answerable, and what powers have been delegated to it and by what authority?'

*Reply:* The terms of reference and membership of the Strategic Plan Programme Board were published on the Council website following Council's meeting of 29 October 2018<sup>4</sup> and are as follows.

#### 'Terms of reference

The [Strategic Plan] Programme Board will assume collective responsibility for implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-23, and will consider, and report regularly (normally at least once per term during 2018/19) to PRAC, on the following:

- (a) Updates from Responsible Officers on action plans for implementation of Priorities set out in the Plan;
- (b) The resources necessary to achieve the action plans and timelines for delivery;
- (c) Where necessary, the order of precedence among competing Priorities and calls for resources;
- (d) The development of Key Performance Indicators and targets against which to measure progress in delivery of the Plan.

#### Membership

##### Chair

- Vice-Chancellor

<sup>1</sup>List of Consultative Notices published in the 2018-19 academic year <https://gazette.web.ox.ac.uk/general-consultative-notices-2018-19>

<sup>2</sup>[www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/strategic-plan-2018-23](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/strategic-plan-2018-23)

<sup>3</sup>[www.ox.ac.uk/staff/news-listing/2018-12-07-oxford-unveils-plans-new-graduate-college](http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff/news-listing/2018-12-07-oxford-unveils-plans-new-graduate-college)

<sup>4</sup>Paper C(18)120 [www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c18120w.pdf](http://www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c18120w.pdf) (requires single sign-on)

*Pro-Vice-Chancellors*

- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Innovation)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development and External Affairs)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People and GLAM)

*Heads of Division*

- Head of Humanities Division
- Head of MPLS Division
- Head of Medical Sciences Division
- Head of Social Sciences Division

*Head of House*

- Warden of New College

*Officers*

- Registrar
- Director of Finance
- Director of Planning and Council Secretariat'

It has subsequently been agreed that one of the Proctors or the Assessor, as may be agreed between them, shall also be a member.

As set out in the terms of reference above, the Strategic Plan Programme Board reports to the Planning and Resource Allocation Committee, which has, under Regulation 5.4 (1) of Part 5 of Council Regulations 15 of 2002, the responsibility of reporting annually to Council on the implementation of the Strategic Plan<sup>5</sup>. The Strategic Plan Programme Board is a temporary committee established by Council under section 24–26 of Statute VI and as such it is not set up by regulation. Its agendas and minutes will not be published but, subject to considerations of confidentiality, its reports to Council may from time to time be published on Council's website in accordance with Council's Standing Orders<sup>6</sup>, for example the report of the meetings of the Strategic Plan Programme Board held on 17 October and 29 November 2018 published on the Council website following Council's meeting on 4 February 2019<sup>7</sup>.

'(iv) Given that a Project Board has been set up for "Parks College", will its membership and remit be published, and also its Agenda and Minutes?

<sup>5</sup>[www.admin.ox.ac.uk/statutes/regulations/520-122t.shtml](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/statutes/regulations/520-122t.shtml)

<sup>6</sup>[www.council.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/council/documents/media/2018-19\\_council\\_standing\\_orders.pdf](http://www.council.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/council/documents/media/2018-19_council_standing_orders.pdf)

<sup>7</sup>Paper C(19)168 [www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c19168w.pdf](http://www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c19168w.pdf) (requires single sign-on)

(v) To what authority in the University is the Project Board immediately answerable, and what powers have been delegated to it and by what authority?'

*Reply:* A Programme Board has been set up for Parks College, which oversees the project and provides sign-off at key stages. Its membership has been published on the Parks College website, [www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/future-projects-parks-college/project-governance](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/future-projects-parks-college/project-governance) (requires single sign-on), and is at the time of writing as follows.

- Professor Lionel Tarassenko, Head of the Department of Engineering Science (Chair)
- Professor Anne Trefethen, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People & GLAM)
- Professor E J Milner-Gulland, Tasso Leventis Professor of Biodiversity
- Professor Matthew Freeman, Head of the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology
- Professor Jane Langdale, Professor of Plant Development (Department of Plant Sciences)
- Dr Paul Martin, Associate Head (Education), Social Sciences Division
- Representative for the Humanities Division - to be confirmed
- Richard Oviden, Bodley's Librarian
- One of the Proctors or the Assessor, as may be agreed between them
- Catriona Cannon, Deputy Librarian, Bodleian Libraries
- Janet Stott, Deputy Director, Museum of Natural History
- Allison D'Ambrosia, VP Graduates, Oxford SU
- Liesl Elder, Chief Development Officer, Development Office
- Chris Carrington, Director of Capital Projects, Estates Services
- Dr Joanna Rhodes, Head of Finance and Administration, Department of Engineering Science
- Dr Stuart Wilkinson, Head of the Knowledge Exchange and Impact Team, Research Services
- Dr Nigel Berry, Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance), Planning and Council Secretariat
- Robert Bough, Solicitor, Legal Services Office
- Susannah Wintersgill, Director of Communications and Marketing (GLAM) (to 10 April 2019)
- Alison Stibbe (from 10 April 2019)
- Jeremy Sims, MPLS Division Financial Controller

The composition of the Programme Board was reported to Council at its meeting on 4 February 2019 and published on the Council website following that meeting<sup>8</sup>. In common with all projects included within the Strategic Capital Programme, the Programme Board reports up to Council through Strategic Capital Steering Group and Finance Committee for financial approval, and through Buildings and Estates Sub-committee and Planning and Resource Allocation Committee for delivery oversight. In common with other capital programme boards, its agendas and minutes are not published. The Programme Board is also advised by the Executive Steering/Advisory Group consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellors with portfolio and the Registrar.

'(vi) The costings to the University of the proposed major rebuilding and 'reconfiguration' work on the Radcliffe Science Library, Abbot's Kitchen and space currently occupied by Inorganic Chemistry or alternative spaces being considered for allocation to "Parks College"?'

*Reply:* This is set out in Section 5 of the explanatory note to the Legislative Proposal published as item (2) below:

'The proposed financial envelope for the Parks College project incorporates two other projects planned previously. These are:

- a £15.8m project to redevelop the RSL, the notional envelope for which comprised £10.8m from University funds and £5m secured from philanthropy; and
- the purchase and refurbishment of Fardon Court, for which funding of £10.3m had previously been approved.

The additional elements are:

- the extension of the RSL redevelopment to encompass the Abbot's Kitchen, Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory (ICL) and connecting space, with an associated increase in project costs for the central site from £15.8m to £24m fully funded by the University; and
- £3m to cover the operational deficit of Parks College until 2024/25 when it is expected to break even.

<sup>8</sup>Paper C(19)163 [www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c19163w.pdf](http://www.council.ox.ac.uk/system/files/council/documents/media/c19163w.pdf) (requires single sign-on)

Council, on the recommendation of Finance Committee, has further agreed that the overall envelope should be increased from the £37.3m set out above to £40m. The additional £2.7m would be held as a contingency under the control of Finance Committee. This is in recognition of the risks highlighted with regard to the £24m project estimate, the need to secure endowment and donations and the possibility of the operational budget needing to absorb unknown or unexpected costs.

The redevelopment of accommodation in Wellington Square is a separate project.'

'(vii) The calculated cost to the University of the first and second years of running "Parks College".'

*Reply:* The £3m referred to in the answer to (vi) above includes a sum of £1.057m for the years 2019/20 and 2020/21.

'(viii) The location and scale of additional graduate student accommodation needed for the students of the new Society.'

*Reply:* The space allocation at item (3) below provides for the allocation of 157 units of graduate accommodation to Parks College in Farndon Court and the redeveloped Wellington Square. Further consideration will be given to the accommodation needs of Parks College as its student numbers increase.

'(ix) Any proposed revisions of Statute XII and dependent Regulations to clarify the rights of academic and academic-related staff in the Society, under the procedures affecting their employment.'

*Reply:* Official Fellows of the society will be elected from among those already holding University contracts of employment and will not be employed by the society. Those employed by the society ie the President and college officers, will be employees of the University, on Chancellor, Masters and Scholars contracts, with all the rights of other employees of the University and subject to the same statutes, regulations, policies and procedures. No revisions to Statute XII or dependent regulations are deemed necessary. Regulation 10 of the proposed Regulations for Parks College allows for the appointment of an alternate when required for the proper operation of the statutes, regulations, policies and procedures, as follows:

'10. Parks College shall be subject to all the statutes, regulations, policies and procedures of the University as they may be from time to time, unless those

statutes, regulations, policies or procedures specifically state otherwise. Any powers or duties afforded to a Head of department by statute, regulation, policy or procedure shall fall to the President or their nominee. Where a statute, regulation, policy or procedure specifies an action or role to be carried out by a particular officer that does not exist in or for Parks College, the Registrar shall appoint an alternate on behalf of Council.'

## **(2) Voting on Legislative Proposal: Statute V: Colleges, Societies, and Permanent Private Halls**

### *Explanatory Note*

The case for a new graduate society/college was made in the University's 5-year Strategic Plan (2018-23), reflecting the ambition to increase postgraduate taught (PGT) student intake by up to 450 a year and postgraduate research (PGR) student intake by up to 400 a year, while maintaining quality (Education Priority 5). Such an ambition cannot be realised without the creation of at least one new graduate society/college. The creation of a new society would enable growth in the number of postgraduate students, without upsetting the balance between undergraduate and postgraduate student numbers in mixed colleges or imposing unrealistic targets for growth in the existing graduate colleges. It is now proposed to establish a new society, initially to be known as Parks College ('the society'), co-located with the Radcliffe Science Library in Parks Road.

### *1. Academic vision for Parks College*

Much of 21st-century research is interdisciplinary, and some of the most exciting research takes place at the boundary between two or more disciplines. In most cases, this occurs as a result of experts from each discipline coming together and working collaboratively on topics of joint interest.

Parks College will have a special focus on cross-disciplinary interaction, with a series of regular events designed to promote the ethos and practice of interdisciplinary exchange. The intention is to build a collaborative research and social community whose members embrace the opportunity to interact with fellow students and researchers beyond the boundaries of their own disciplines.

Parks College will provide an environment for interactions between researchers from the four academic divisions. The initial themes for the society's interdisciplinary research clusters will be Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning;

Environmental Change; and Cellular Life. All these themes provide exciting opportunities for participation by researchers from all four divisions. Other themes will be introduced as the Parks College Fellowship grows. Once there is a full complement of graduate students, it is anticipated that the society will have six to eight interdisciplinary clusters. The society will appoint as Official Fellows champions for each of its clusters.

The vision for Parks College draws on the oldest Oxford tradition of a place where teachers and their students share together in college life. The teachers (Official Fellows) will be Research Professors (RSIVs) or Associate Professors/Senior Research Fellows (grades 9 and 10), who do not currently have a college fellowship. Early-career postdoctoral researchers will be Research Fellows of the society, and Associate Fellows will bring fresh perspectives from other parts of the University and outside. The students will be postgraduate research students working on the major themes addressed by the society, for whom interaction with other researchers in the society will be mutually beneficial. Over time there will also be a significant number of postgraduate taught students, whose courses address topics directly or indirectly related to the society's major themes.

### *2. Research clusters*

The initial research themes of Parks College - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning; Environmental Change; and Cellular Life - have natural synergies, enabling cross-cutting insights and research collaborations to emerge. Oxford is one of the world's leading centres for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning research, addressing problems of global significance. The society will also bring together researchers working on many aspects of the drivers and impacts of, and responses to, global environmental change. Recent initiatives in South Parks Road to integrate physical and life sciences make Oxford a world leader in interdisciplinary approaches to understanding the fundamental cellular mechanisms of life.

The University already has many existing interdisciplinary programmes and lecture series, together with research centres such as TORCH and the Oxford Martin School. The society will find synergies with such existing activities, not compete with them, and will look for opportunities to add value to Oxford's rich portfolio of interdisciplinary activities.

### 3. Composition of Parks College

Subject to the approval by Congregation of the establishment of the society, Council has appointed Professor Lionel Tarassenko as the first head of house (President) of Parks College.

The Official Fellows of the society will be Research Professors (RSIVs) or Associate Professors/Senior Research Fellows (grades 9 and 10), who do not currently have a college fellowship. They will be expected to organise at least one interdisciplinary seminar series or reading group each term. It is envisaged that there will be up to 40 Official Fellows in the steady state. Postdocs and University Research Fellows with relevant research interests will be appointed as Research Fellows of the society. Associate Fellows who hold relevant internal or external non-academic appointments will also be appointed, helping enrich the intellectual life of the society. There will be a professional Bursar and a professional Senior Tutor who will be members of Governing Body.

The student body will initially comprise PGR students working on the major themes addressed by the society, for whom interaction with other researchers in the society will be mutually beneficial. From Year 2, the society will admit both PGR and PGT students, whose courses address topics which are directly or indirectly related to the society's interdisciplinary themes. The intention is for the society to have 500 students when in steady state.

It is not proposed to take Parks College Fellows and graduate students away from their research laboratories or departments. The aim instead is for the society to function as a hub for interdisciplinary exchanges, mainly at lunchtime and in the late afternoon/early evening.

#### 4. Space for Parks College

If Congregation approves this legislative proposal, the associated resolution on Congregation's agenda proposes the allocation of the following spaces to Parks College.

For the main site: the Worthington and Jackson buildings, housing the Radcliffe Science Library (RSL) and the museums store (subject to the negotiation of a space-sharing agreement between Parks College and Gardens, Libraries and Museums (GLAM)), and the Abbot's Kitchen, western wing of the Inorganic Chemistry Teaching Labs and connecting space (subject to Estates Services working in

consultation with the Department of Chemistry to identify alternative space to accommodate the Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) programmes and other relevant occupants of the space as soon as possible with the agreement that, if needed, the CDT programmes can occupy space in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory until April 2021).

For student accommodation: in Farndon Court and Wellington Square, a total of 157 units of graduate accommodation.

#### *The main site*

Siting the society in the historic Worthington and Jackson buildings of the RSL in the heart of the University Science Area means that scholars and students can benefit from an academically appropriate and convenient hub close to their departments and research labs, where they can come together to engage in study, discussions, seminars, workshops, reading groups and social activities.

These buildings will continue to house the Radcliffe Science Library. Plans had already been put forward by GLAM to refurbish and revitalise the RSL building in order to improve the library facilities, provide much-needed space for the preservation of the museum collections and support research and teaching with them, and facilitate public engagement with research. Integrating the RSL redevelopment plans with the proposals for Parks College will ensure that all these objectives can be met, and bring mutual benefit.

Library readers will enjoy facilities that better meet the needs of 21st-century science in a refurbished building; Parks College members will benefit from an on-site library run by specialist subject librarians and a museum collections centre offering access to some of the world's most significant collections; and Bodleian and museum staff will be able to establish closer working partnerships with researchers and graduate students on areas such as open science, public engagement with research, open access and research data management.

Parks College will outsource its library provision to the Bodleian. The redeveloped science library, which will be run by Bodleian staff and remain open to all University members and other registered Bodleian readers on the same basis as all Bodleian Libraries services, will provide dedicated spaces for informal and formal study, and a wide range of services and resources. The role of a science library until well into the latter part of the 20th century was to provide access to print

books and journals. Now the changing needs of students and researchers in the sciences means that a 21st-century library requires a greater range of services, including high-bandwidth Wi-Fi, electronic access to journals and research monographs, technology-assisted seminar and conference rooms, and quiet study space. These services and their associated spaces will be integrated with the plans for Parks College. The aim is to improve the usability, comfort, quality and layout of the library, creating an accessible and modern space, which exploits new technology and facilitates the use of digital resources and access to science specialist library staff.

The museum collections centre will be integrated within the plans to facilitate collections-based teaching, research and engagement and to provide for the storage of the University collections. The proposals to create a high-quality museum object store for the University's collections in Levels 1 and 2 of the RSL will go ahead as originally planned.

Within Parks College there will be fresh spaces for communal dining, collaboration, exhibitions and public events. The western wing of the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory has been identified as a potential space for the dining hall. This would act as the social hub of the society, providing a collegial space in which students, postdocs and academic staff can engage in discussion and attend guest lectures. During the day, it is envisaged that an area within the dining hall will be configured as a café venue for Parks College members and their guests to hold informal discussions and meetings. The GLAM staff working on the RSL site will be able to use the café facilities on the same basis as the members of Parks College.

The principle of re-configurability will be applied to as much of the space as possible so that both the society and the science library may make optimal use of the building throughout the academic year.

To ensure that these mutual benefits are realised, a space-sharing agreement between Parks College and GLAM is to be negotiated, and the allocation of the Worthington and Jackson buildings is conditional upon agreement being reached. Since this agreement will be between two parts of the University (as opposed to two distinct legal entities) it will not bind at law, but the University will ensure that the effect of the agreement is in practical terms binding on Parks College and GLAM.

Completion of the redevelopment of the RSL building, including the new science

library and museum collections centre, is provisionally scheduled for June 2021. The redevelopment of the western wing of the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory, Abbot's Kitchen and connecting spaces will follow, with completion provisionally scheduled for June 2022. As the proposed dining hall is not scheduled for completion until just before the start of the 2022–3 academic year, the first two cohorts of students will have access to lunch and dining facilities at Linacre College. Parks College's admissions website will be clear about the expected provision in the first couple of years, and the fellowship will provide a full programme of events for these students. Being research students on four-year programmes, the first year's intake will experience steady-state levels of provision at Parks College in their final two years.

#### *Student accommodation*

Parks College will aim to provide accommodation for as many of its graduate students as possible, albeit not on the RSL site owing to a lack of space. The associated space resolution proposes an initial allocation of 157 units of accommodation to Parks College across two sites: Farndon Court, which is newly acquired by the University, and Wellington Square, which currently provides graduate accommodation. Farndon Court is scheduled to be ready for use by September 2020 and Wellington Square by September 2022.

#### *5. Financial commitments*

The proposed financial envelope for the Parks College project incorporates two other projects planned previously. These are:

- a £15.8m project to redevelop the RSL, the notional envelope for which comprised £10.8m from University funds and £5m secured from philanthropy; and
- the purchase and refurbishment of Farndon Court, for which funding of £10.3m had previously been approved.

The additional elements are:

- the extension of the RSL redevelopment to encompass the Abbot's Kitchen, Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory (ICL) and connecting space, with an associated increase in project costs for the central site from £15.8m to £24m fully funded by the University; and
- £3m to cover the operational deficit of Parks College until 2024/25 when it is expected to break even.

Council, on the recommendation of Finance Committee, has further agreed that the overall envelope should be increased

from the £37.3m set out above to £40m. The additional £2.7m would be held as a contingency under the control of Finance Committee. This is in recognition of the risks highlighted with regard to the £24m project estimate, the need to secure endowment and donations and the possibility of the operational budget needing to absorb unknown or unexpected costs.

The redevelopment of accommodation in Wellington Square is a separate project.

#### *6. Consideration of the proposal*

The proposal has been considered by the following committees of Council: Curators of the University Libraries, Education Committee, Personnel Committee and Finance Committee (advised by Buildings and Estates Sub-Committee and Strategic Capital Steering Group). It has also been considered by Conference of Colleges and Conference's Estates Bursars Committee, Graduate Committee and Domestic Bursars Committee. Council has received and considered the comments and reports from these bodies.

There have been two 75-minute Q&A sessions about Parks College for graduate students on 5 and 13 March and one 75-minute Q&A session for staff on 19 March. A further Q&A session for staff will take place on 25 March. In addition, there is now a Parks College website ([www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/future-projects-parks-college](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/future-projects-parks-college)) on which further information is available.

Council fully supports the proposal. It does, however, wish to assure itself that the student experience in the first year will be satisfactory before the central site of the society is ready. Council has therefore agreed to receive, at its meeting on 15 July 2019, a report from the Parks College programme board as to whether or not the society will be able to provide a satisfactory student experience in the academic year 2020/21. If the programme board at that time decides that the student experience in the 2020/21 academic year would not be satisfactory, the admission of the first students will be postponed to the academic year 2021/22.

#### *7. Legislation*

The legislative proposal adds Parks College to the list of societies in Statute V.

The regulations to be made by Council if the revised Statute is approved by Congregation provide for the composition and governance of the new society. These are based on the regulations for the existing societies with two principal

differences. One is to provide for the specific requirements of Parks College, which is not offering employment to Official Fellows, rather an association to those otherwise employed by the University, for example in RSIV posts and grades 9–10. Another is to address some anomalies in the position of societies in terms of University governance, by establishing the role of the President and Governing Body of Parks College in administering the society's affairs, while also confirming the position of Parks College within the University's framework of statutes, regulations, policies and procedures. The regulations have been drafted to be LGBT+ aware.

Two further sets of legislation will be dealt with in the future. The regulations providing for the elections cycle for the Proctors and Assessor will be changed following consultation with the Conference of Colleges. Council will also approve the by-laws for Parks College, after they have been drafted by the governing body.

*WHEREAS it is expedient to establish a new society, initially to be known as Parks College,*  
THE UNIVERSITY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS.

In Statute V, concerning Colleges, Societies, and Permanent Private Halls, section 5, insert the following (new text underlined):

'5. The following are societies of the University:

Kellogg College  
Parks College  
St Cross College'

*Regulations to be made by Council if the Statute is approved*

**1** Insert new Council Regulations as follows:

*'Regulations for Parks College*

1. Parks College shall be a society through which persons who are graduates of other universities (or in the opinion of the governing body possess comparable qualifications) and who are not members of any college, society, Permanent Private Hall or other institution designated by Council by regulation as being permitted to present candidates for matriculation may be admitted as members of the University.

2. The governing body may admit to membership of Parks College:

- (1) students desiring to work for research degrees;
- (2) other graduate students desiring to pursue academic work in Oxford;
- (3) other persons at the discretion of the governing body.

3. The governing body shall consist of the President, who shall be its chair, and Official Fellows and such other fellows as shall be made members of the governing body in accordance with by-laws determined by the governing body and approved by Council under regulation 4 (1) below.

4. (1) The governing body may from time to time make by-laws which shall be consistent with the statutes, regulations, policies and procedures of the University and which, when approved by Council, shall be binding on all Fellows of Parks College.

(2) The governing body shall also have full powers (subject to the provisions of these regulations) to do all that may be necessary to administer Parks College as a graduate society, subject to the following conditions:

(a) it shall submit a report annually to Council;

(b) it shall submit estimates to Council in Hilary Term in respect of the ensuing financial year, and shall satisfy Council that no charge will fall on university funds except such as may be provided by Council; and

(c) the academic policy of Parks College shall be consistent with the University's strategies and plans as approved from time to time by Council. In cases in which Council thinks it appropriate, Council may direct the governing body on certain courses of action consistent with those strategies and plans.

5. (1) The President of Parks College shall be appointed by Council, after Council has considered any recommendations which the governing body may submit, on such terms and conditions as Council shall determine.

(2) The President shall be accountable to Council.

(3) The President may hold their office in conjunction with a professorship, readership, university lecturership or other university teaching or research post if Council, after consultation with the relevant divisional board and any other bodies concerned, shall so decide.

6. The officers of Parks College shall be appointed by the governing body.

7. The governing body may elect to Official Fellowships at the society, on terms and conditions determined by the governing body and approved by Council, suitably

qualified persons who are employed by the University.

8. The governing body may elect suitably qualified persons to other categories of fellowships approved by Council, on terms and conditions determined by the governing body and approved by Council.

9. Official Fellows will be appointed for a period of five years in the first instance, with re-appointment for successive five-year terms, subject to satisfactory performance of their society duties.

10. Parks College shall be subject to all the statutes, regulations, policies and procedures of the University as they may be from time to time, unless those statutes, regulations, policies or procedures specifically state otherwise. Any powers or duties afforded to a Head of department by statute, regulation, policy or procedure shall fall to the President or their nominee. Where a statute, regulation, policy or procedure specifies an action or role to be carried out by a particular officer that does not exist in or for Parks College, the Registrar shall appoint an alternate on behalf of Council.

#### **Notice of Opposition**

The following members of Congregation have given notice that they intend to vote against the legislative proposal:

P P Edwards, St Catherine's  
A Schekochihin, Merton  
F A Armstrong, St John's.

#### **(3) Voting on a Resolution allocating space for Parks College**

##### *Explanatory Note*

Further information is provided in the explanatory note under agenda item (2) above; see especially section 4.

##### *Text of Resolution*

(1) That the Worthington and Jackson buildings (Levels 1–8, approximately 5,633 sqm net usable area) be allocated to Parks College, subject to the negotiation of a space-sharing agreement between Parks College and the Gardens, Libraries and Museums (GLAM);

(2) that the Abbot's Kitchen, the western wing of the Inorganic Chemistry Lab and connecting space (together approximately 740 sqm net usable area) be allocated to Parks College, subject to Estates Services working in consultation with the Department of Chemistry to identify alternative space to accommodate the CDT programmes and other relevant occupants of the space as soon as possible

(with the agreement that, if needed, the CDT programmes can occupy space in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory until April 2021);

(3) that Farndon Court (97 accommodation units) be allocated to Parks College; and

(4) that 60 accommodation units in the redeveloped Wellington Square be allocated to Parks College.

#### **Notice of Opposition**

The following members of Congregation have given notice that they intend to oppose the resolution:

P P Edwards, St Catherine's  
A Schekochihin, Merton  
F A Armstrong, St John's.

#### **Notice of Amendment**

Under regulation 3.18 of Congregation Regulations 2 of 2002, the Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the Proctors, has determined the following to be a true amendment.

##### *Explanatory Note*

Allocation of space to Parks College is made conditional in the proposed Resolution on further agreements, as yet to be concluded, between the new university society and other university departments in subsections 1 and 2; in the case of subsection 4 the proposal is conditional on the new accommodation units in Wellington Square being built. Furthermore, Congregation and colleges have not been provided with any detail on plans (if any) to compensate for the loss of graduate accommodation units available to other colleges and departments of the University for the expansion envisioned in the Strategic Plan.

There is at the moment an uncertainty as to the date at which either the Radcliffe Science Library or the Department of Chemistry will need to vacate the premises allocated to Parks College. There is further uncertainty about sufficiency of planned graduate accommodation (157 units) in the longer term, given that 'the intention is for the society to have 500 students when in steady state' (*University Gazette*, 21 March 2019, p. 345).

The Resolution currently does not indicate any start date for the new allocation. We propose to make it conditional on approval by Congregation following further reports to Council from the Project Board for Parks College.

*Amendment: to make the starting date of the space allocations conditional on Congregation approval.*

**1** Before the start of subsection (1), insert words, 'That subject to approval of the starting date of these allocations by a further Resolution of Congregation,'.

**2** At the beginning of subsection (1) delete the word 'That'.

**3** At the beginning of subsection (2) delete the word 'that'.

**4** At the beginning of subsection (3) delete the word 'that'.

**5** At the beginning of subsection (4) delete the word 'that'.

*Proposed by:* P P Edwards, Chemistry, St Catherine's

*Seconded by:* F Armstrong, Chemistry, St John's

Council considers the proposed amendment unacceptable to it.

### **Arrangements for the meeting**

#### *Attendance and timings*

The meeting will be held in the Sheldonian Theatre.

Attendance at the meeting is open to members of Congregation and to nominated representatives of the Oxford University Student Union (Oxford SU) as agreed in advance by the Vice-Chancellor. Admittance to the theatre will be on the production of a valid University card and will be on a first-come, first-served basis (places will be reserved for scheduled speakers). The doors of the Sheldonian Theatre will open at 1.45pm and will remain open throughout the meeting except when voting is taking place.

The order of business shall follow items (1)–(3) above.

The Vice-Chancellor has decided that the wearing of gowns shall be optional on this occasion.

#### *Advance notice by speakers*

Members of Congregation who wish to speak are asked to indicate this intention by emailing [congregation.meeting@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:congregation.meeting@admin.ox.ac.uk) at the latest by **noon on Monday 6 May** (which of course is a Bank Holiday, but indications of an intention to speak will be collected on that day). It would be helpful if members of Congregation intending to speak would explain in no more than 25 words whether they wish to speak in support of, or in opposition to, the legislative proposal, the resolution or the

amendment to the resolution, and whether there are particular issues they intend to address, to assist with determining the order in which speakers are called. Speakers will be expected to limit their contributions to four minutes. Proposers and Seconders will be contacted separately. Owing to time constraints, it may not be possible to call all those who wish to speak. On the other hand, if time permits, those who have not indicated in advance may have an opportunity to speak.

#### *Voting*

The Vice-Chancellor and the Proctors have determined that voting during the meeting will take place by paper ballot. Voting papers will be handed out on arrival. When a vote is called, members of Congregation will be required to identify themselves on their voting slips by name and signature and by college/department or faculty and to deposit their own voting slips in ballot boxes at the doors of the house. Slips will be sorted and counted by the Proctors, and will subsequently be kept confidentially by the Proctors for six days, after which they will be destroyed.

#### *Transcript*

It is intended that a transcript<sup>9</sup> of the meeting will be published in the *Gazette* of 16 May and on the Congregation website. As a result of time constraints, it will not be possible to check the report of the proceedings with individual speakers before publication. Speakers are asked to provide their written texts by email to [congregation.meeting@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:congregation.meeting@admin.ox.ac.uk) by **9am on Wednesday 8 May**.

<sup>9</sup>The transcript may be edited for legal reasons.

