

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REPORTER

No 6790

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2025

VOL CLV No 39

CONTENTS

Notices		Obituaries	
Calendar	668	Obituary Notices	686
Discussion on Tuesday, 1 July 2025	668	<i>End of the Official Part of the 'Reporter'</i>	
Grace 3 of 18 June 2025: Correction	668	Report of Discussion: 17 June 2025	
Policy against Bribery and Corruption	668	Second Joint Report of the Council and the	
Elections to the Council and the Board of Scrutiny	669	General Board on the review of examination	
Vacancies, appointments, etc.		regulations following the marking and	
Vacancies in the University	671	assessment boycott	687
Regulations for examinations		Report of the Council recommending the	
Assessment Formats Ordinance: Course		budget and allocations from the Chest for	
regulation changes	671	2025–26	687
Notices by Faculty Boards, etc.		College Notices	
Engineering Tripos, Parts IIa and IIb, 2025–26		Elections	691
Modules: Correction	684	Vacancies	691
Archaeology Tripos, 2025–26: Variable papers	684		



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

NOTICES

Calendar

25 June, *Wednesday*. Scarlet Day. Easter Term ends. Congregation of the Regent House at 2.45 p.m. (Honorary Degrees).

1 July, *Tuesday*. Discussion by videoconference at 2 p.m. (see below).

2 July, *Wednesday*. Scarlet Day. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m. (General Admission).

3 July, *Thursday*. Scarlet Day. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m. (General Admission).

4 July, *Friday*. Scarlet Day. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m. (General Admission).

5 July, *Saturday*. Scarlet Day. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m. (General Admission).

Discussions (Tuesdays at 2 p.m.)

1 July

15 July

Congregations (at 10 a.m. unless otherwise stated)

25 June, 2.45 p.m. (Honorary Degrees)

2, 3, 4 and 5 July (General Admission)

24, 25 and 26 July

Discussion on Tuesday, 1 July 2025

The Vice-Chancellor invites members of the Regent House, University and College employees, registered students and others qualified under the regulations for Discussions (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 111) to attend a Discussion by videoconference on Tuesday, 1 July 2025 at 2 p.m. The following items will be discussed:

1. Report of the General Board, dated 9 June 2025, on the outcomes of the Academic Career Pathways (Research and Teaching) and (Teaching and Scholarship) 2025 exercises (*Reporter*, 6788, 2024–25, p. 636).
2. Report of the General Board, dated 9 June 2025, on the introduction of a Linguistics and Modern Languages Tripos in the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics (*Reporter*, 6789, 2024–25, p. 657).

Those wishing to join the Discussion by videoconference should email UniversityDraftsman@admin.cam.ac.uk from their University email account, providing their CRSid (if a member of the collegiate University), by 10 a.m. on the date of the Discussion to receive joining instructions. Alternatively contributors may email their remarks to contact@proctors.cam.ac.uk, copying ReporterEditor@admin.cam.ac.uk, by no later than 10 a.m. on the day of the Discussion for reading out by the Proctors,¹ or may ask someone else who is attending to read the remarks on their behalf.

In accordance with the regulations for Discussions, the Chair of the Board of Scrutiny or any ten members of the Regent House² may request that the Council arrange for one or more of the items listed for discussion to be discussed in person (usually in the Senate-House). Requests should be made to the Registry, on paper or by email to UniversityDraftsman@admin.cam.ac.uk from addresses within the cam.ac.uk domain, by no later than 9 a.m. on the day of the Discussion. Any changes to the Discussion schedule will be confirmed in the *Reporter* at the earliest opportunity.

General information on Discussions is provided on the University Governance site at <https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/governance/decision-making/discussions/>.

¹ Any comments sent by email should please begin with the name and title of the contributor as they wish it to be read out and include at the start a note of any College and/or Departmental affiliations held.

² <https://www.scrutiny.cam.ac.uk/> and https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/regent_house_roll/section1.shtml.

Grace 3 of 18 June 2025: Correction

19 June 2025

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice of a correction to Grace 3 of 18 June 2025 (*Reporter*, 6789, 2024–25, p. 665), made under Regulation 15 of the Ordinance for Graces and Congregations of the Regent House (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 111). The wording of the Grace has been amended to read as follows (revised wording shown in bold):

3. That, on the recommendation of the General Board, a Professorship of Data-intensive Mathematical Physics be established **for a single tenure** from 1 January 2026, placed in the Schedule to Special Ordinance C (vii) 1, and assigned to the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics.¹

¹ See the General Board's Notice, *Reporter*, 6789, 2024–25, p. 654.

Policy against Bribery and Corruption

18 June 2025

The Council has approved a revised version of the above Policy, which has been renamed the Policy against Bribery, Corruption and Fraud. The Policy has been updated to reflect new legislation, which comes into force on 1 September 2025. A new Failure to Prevent Fraud offence was created as part of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023. The updated Policy is available at: <https://www.governanceandcompliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/governance-and-strategy/policy-against-bribery-corruption-and-fraud>.

Elections to the Council and the Board of Scrutiny

25 June 2025

This Notice sets out information on elections to fill vacancies on the Council and the Board of Scrutiny, together with the nomination procedure and election timetable that will apply to both elections.

The University is committed to equality, which includes supporting and encouraging all under-represented groups, promoting an inclusive culture, and valuing diversity. Nominations from groups that are under-represented in the memberships are welcomed.

Election to the Council

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that an election is to be held to fill a casual vacancy for a member of the University Council in class (c) (other members of the Regent House) under Statute A IV 2, following the resignation of Ms Milly Bodfish. The person elected will serve from 1 October 2025 until 31 December 2026, the remainder of Ms Bodfish's term.

The Council is the principal executive and policy-making body of the University. It has general responsibility for the administration of the University, for defining its mission, for the planning of its work, and for the management of its resources. The Council deals with relations between the University and the Colleges, and conducts negotiations with outside bodies on many matters (other than those relating directly to the educational and research programmes of the University, which are dealt with on its behalf by the General Board of the Faculties). It is responsible for the appointment or nomination of certain members of internal and external bodies, and for many student matters (excluding undergraduate admissions, which is a College concern). Further information about the Council is available to members of the University on the Council website (<https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/council/>). Questions about its work can be addressed to the Registry by emailing Registry@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Reasons for serving on the Council

The Council of the University of Cambridge is one of the few principal bodies in the higher education sector with a majority of members elected from internal constituencies; most equivalent bodies are made up predominantly of external members. The Council draws its strength from the expertise, engagement, and scrutiny of its members – those elected in its classes of senior members of the collegiate University as well as its external and student members. It is key to the continuing success of the University that elections to the Council attract strong candidates who are willing to share their knowledge and commit their time for the benefit of the University as a whole.

Duties and responsibilities of Council members

The University is both an exempt charity,¹ and a corporation established by common law. Council members are therefore both charity trustees of the University and, effectively, its corporate directors. They have associated legal responsibilities and duties, including the promotion of the interests of the University and acting with integrity, care, and prudence. Under regulatory guidance, Council members must be 'fit and proper persons'.² It is important for candidates to recognise and accept the obligations that Council membership would confer upon them.

The Handbook for Members of the Council sets out the Council's primary responsibilities and provides advice and guidance to members of Council on their legal and other responsibilities. Members of the Council are expected to attend all meetings of the Council. Members will not normally be able to take more than one term of leave during their period on the Council and may instead carry forward their leave entitlement. Potential nominees might wish to familiarise themselves with the key aspects of the University's *Statutes and Ordinances* (<https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/so/>), and the most recent Budget Reports, Annual Reports and Financial Statements.³

Further useful information is provided by the Office for Students (<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/for-providers/regulatory-resources/regulatory-notice-and-advice/>) and the Charity Commission (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>). This information includes details of the extent of a charity trustee's personal liability. Instances of personal liability are rare and unlikely to occur, providing trustees act honestly, prudently, in good faith, in the best interests of the University, and in compliance with legislation and the University's governing documents.

¹ The University has charitable status but is exempt from the statutory requirement which otherwise obliges a charity to register with the Charity Commission. The Office for Students is the principal regulator of the University as regards its compliance with its legal obligations in exercising control and management of its administration as a charity.

² For a full definition of 'fit and proper persons', see <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/for-providers/registering-with-the-ofs/registration-with-the-ofs-a-guide/public-interest-governance-principles/>.

³ See respectively: <https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/finance-committee/Pages/budget.aspx>, <https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/council/Pages/council-annual-reports.aspx> and <https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/finance-committee/Pages/fmi.aspx>.

Elections to the Board of Scrutiny

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice of elections to fill vacancies on the Board of Scrutiny under Statute A VII as follows:

- **one vacancy** in class (c)(i) (a member of the Regent House who has been a member of the Regent House for not more than ten years on 1 October 2025); and
- **three vacancies** in class (c)(ii) (members of the Regent House).

Those elected will serve for four years from 1 October 2025.

The Board of Scrutiny consists of:

- the Proctors;
- the two Pro-Proctors nominated by the Colleges;
- eight members of the Regent House elected by the Regent House.

Under the provisions of Statute A VII 4, no person may be a member of the Board of Scrutiny who is a member of the Council, the General Board, or the Finance Committee of the Council, or who holds any of the University offices of Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University Advocate, Deputy University Advocate, Registry, Assistant Registry, or Secretary of a School. The Statute further prohibits from membership holders of offices with primarily administrative duties designated by Ordinance: Directors and Deputy Directors in the Unified Administrative Service and Assistant Treasurers have been designated as such prohibited offices. A retiring member of the Board who has served for four or more consecutive years is not eligible to serve again as a member in class (c) until one year has elapsed after the end of their previous period of service.

If no nominations are received in accordance with the timetable below, the Council shall be asked whether it wishes to appoint a member to the vacant place or for another election to be held, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the regulations for the election of members of the Board (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 120).

Further information about the Board of Scrutiny can be found in the *Statutes and Ordinances* as noted above, on the Board's website (<https://www.scrutiny.cam.ac.uk/about>), and obtained from Mr Rob Hopwood (email: rob.hopwood@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk), Chair of the Board.

Nomination procedure and election timetable

In order to be eligible, candidates for election are asked to send their nominations to the Vice-Chancellor, to be received not later than **12 noon on Monday, 14 July 2025**. The Vice-Chancellor asks candidates to address their nominations to the Registry by email including electronic signatures to Registry@admin.cam.ac.uk. The nomination (which can be made on a form available on the governance site)⁴ should include (a) a statement signed by two members of the Regent House, nominating the candidate for election and specifying the class in which the candidate is nominated, and (b) a statement signed by the candidate confirming consent to be nominated. The candidate is also required to provide a personal statement by the same date (see below). Two periods of four years should normally be regarded as the maximum length of continuous service for elected members of the Council.

In accordance with the regulations governing the election (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 118), those standing for election should send to the Registry, by 12 noon on Monday, 14 July 2025, a statement in support of their nomination, which will be provided to voters. Each statement should be no more than 500 words in length and should cover the following points:

- the candidate's present position in the University;
- previous posts held, whether in Cambridge or in other universities or outside the university system, with dates;
- the candidate's reasons for standing for election, and the experience and skills they would bring to the role;
- a note of the candidate's particular interests within the field of University business.

The complete list of nominations will be published on the *Reporter* website.

If the election is contested, it will be conducted by ballot under the Single Transferable Vote regulations. Online voting will open at 10 a.m. on Friday, 25 July and close at 5 p.m. on Monday, 4 August 2025. Hardcopy voting papers and supporting materials will be distributed not later than Wednesday, 25 July to those who opted in November 2024 to vote on paper; the last date for the return of voting papers is **5 p.m. on Monday, 4 August 2025**.

⁴ Nomination forms are available at:

<https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/council/Documentspublic/CouncilNominationFormET2025.pdf>;

<https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/council/Documentspublic/ScrutinyNominationFormET2025-ci.pdf>; and

<https://www.governance.cam.ac.uk/committees/council/Documentspublic/ScrutinyNominationFormET2025-cii.pdf>.

VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

Vacancies in the University

A full list of current vacancies can be found at <https://www.jobs.cam.ac.uk>.

Downing Professorship of the Laws of England in the Faculty of Law; tenure: from 1 October 2026; informal enquiries: Professor Louise Gullifer, Convenor of the Board of Electors (email: lg421@cam.ac.uk); closing date: 14 August 2025; further details: <https://www.jobs.cam.ac.uk/job/51789/>; quote reference: JK46396

Professorship of Mechanical Engineering (1997) in the Department of Engineering; tenure: from 1 October 2026 or as soon as possible thereafter; informal enquiries: Mark Holleran at TalentEdu (email: mholleran@talentedu.com); closing date: 7 September 2025; further details: <https://www.jobs.cam.ac.uk/job/51741/>; quote reference: NM46352

The University actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encouraged applications from all sections of society.

The University has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.

REGULATIONS FOR EXAMINATIONS

Assessment Formats Ordinance: Course regulation changes

With effect from 1 October 2025

Further to the Joint Report of the Council and the General Board on the regulation of the methods and modes of assessment in University examinations (*Reporter*, 6704, 2022–23, p. 742) and in anticipation of the Ordinance on Assessment Formats coming into effect on 1 October 2025 (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 262), the General Board, on the recommendation of the relevant Faculty Boards and Degree Committees, has approved amendments to various course regulations. The changes amend or replace existing schemes of examination with references to assessments in formats permitted under the new Ordinance. Amended regulations for the courses listed below are provided in the Annex. Changes to other courses will be published in due course.

Scheme of Examination changes:

Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos (Regulations 14, 18 and 23 only)

Master of Accounting (Regulation 12: Amendments to Option B only)

Master of Business Administration (Regulation 12: Amendments to Option A, Option B and Option C only)

Master of Education (Regulation 8: Option B, Option C and Pathways listing)

Master of Finance (Regulation 6 only)

Special Regulations for the M.Phil. Degree by Advanced Study:

Basic and Translational Neuroscience

Biological Sciences

Cognitive Neuroscience

Education

Film and Screen Studies

Finance

Financial Research

Foundations of Clinical Psychology

Innovation, Strategy and Organisation

Linguistics and Language Sciences

Literature, Culture and Thought

Management

Molecular Mechanisms of Human Disease

Obesity, Endocrinology and Metabolism

Planetary Science and Life in the Universe

Population Health Sciences

Stem Cell Medicine

Strategy, Marketing, Operations and Organisational Behaviour

Technology Policy

Therapeutic Sciences

Translating Medical Devices and Advanced Therapies Research

Special Regulations for the M.St. Degree:

Artificial Intelligence Ethics and Society

Clinical Medicine

Dental Education

Entrepreneurship

Healthcare Data Science

History

Medical Education

Social Innovation

ANNEX

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS

Regulations 14, 18 and 23.

By amending the text of Regulations 14 and 18 and adding a new Regulation 23 to read as follows:

Assessments will be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Faculty or comparable authority concerned.

MASTER OF ACCOUNTING

Regulation 12: Option B.

By amending the scheme of examination for Option B, the two-year (part-time) course, to read as follows:

Option B: Executive Master of Accounting two-year (part-time) course

A course extending over a period of two years comprising a number of course units, which shall include not fewer than 300 hours of formal instruction in the University and not fewer than 120 hours of open study prescribed by the Faculty Board. The examination for Option B shall consist of compulsory and elective modules as outlined below. Each candidate shall complete assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(a) Compulsory modules

The Faculty Board shall give notice of the topics and form of assessment for each compulsory module by the end of the Easter Term immediately preceding the start of the course.

(b) Elective modules

The Faculty Board shall give notice of the topics and form of assessment for elective modules by the end of the term immediately preceding the term in which the work is to be completed.

The Examiners shall have power to examine a candidate *viva voce* on either or both of the sections of the examination (a) and (b).

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Regulation 12: Option A, Option B and Option C.

By amending the schemes of examination for Option A, the one-year course, Option B, the Executive M.B.A. course, and Option C, the Global Executive M.B.A. course, to read as follows:

Option A: one-year course

A course extending over one academic year, including three terms' residence in the University. The examination for Option A shall consist of compulsory and elective modules as outlined below. Each candidate shall complete assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(a) Compulsory modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each compulsory module by the end of the Easter Term immediately preceding the start of the course.

(b) Elective modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each elective module by the end of the term immediately preceding the term in which the work is to be completed.

The Examiners shall have power to examine a candidate *viva voce* on either or both of the sections of the examination (a) and (b).

No student's name shall appear on the list of successful candidates for the M.B.A. Examination unless the Director of the Judge Business School is satisfied that the student has diligently attended the course.

Option B: Executive M.B.A. course

A course extending over a period of two years comprising a number of course units and project work, which shall include not less than 300 hours of formal instruction in the University and not less than 120 hours of open study prescribed by the Faculty Board. The examination for Option B shall consist of compulsory and elective modules as outlined below. Each candidate shall complete assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(a) Compulsory modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each compulsory module by the end of the Easter Term immediately preceding the start of the course.

(b) Elective modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for elective modules by the end of the term immediately preceding the term in which the work is to be completed.

The Examiners shall have power to examine a candidate *viva voce* on either or both of the sections of the examination (a) and (b).

No student's name shall appear on the list of successful candidates for the M.B.A. Examination unless the Director of the Judge Business School is satisfied that the student has diligently attended the course.

Option C: Global Executive M.B.A. course

A course extending over a period of two years comprising a number of course units and project work, which shall include not less than 300 hours of formal University instruction and not less than 120 hours of open study prescribed by the Faculty Board. The examination for Option C shall consist of compulsory and elective modules as outlined below. Each candidate shall complete assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(a) Compulsory modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each compulsory module by the end of the Easter Term immediately preceding the start of the course.

(b) Elective modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for elective modules by the end of the term immediately preceding the term in which the work is to be completed.

The Examiners shall have power to examine a candidate *viva voce* on either or both of the sections of the examination (a) and (b).

No student's name shall appear on the list of successful candidates for the M.B.A. Examination unless the Director of the Judge Business School is satisfied that the student has diligently attended the course.

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Regulation 8: Option B, Option C and Pathways list.

By amending the scheme of examination for Options B and C and the list of Pathways in Regulation 8 to read as follows:

Option B

The examination shall consist of:

- (i) a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words in length excluding footnotes, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee;
- (ii) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

The work completed under (i) and (ii) shall fall within one of the pathways specified at the end of this regulation.

The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and the assessments and on the general field of knowledge within which they fall, save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

Option C (Transforming practice only)

The examination shall consist of:

- (i) a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length excluding footnotes, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee, and a two-page plan and oral presentation on the dissertation;
- (ii) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

PATHWAYS

Arts, creativity, and education
 Child and adolescent psychotherapeutic counselling
 Critical approaches to children's literature
 Educational policy, leadership and improvement
 Mathematics education
 Primary education

Psychology and education
 Research in second language education
 Researching practice 5–18 (primary and secondary schools)
 Transforming practice

MASTER OF FINANCE

Regulation 6.

By amending Regulation 6 to read as follows:

6. The Master of Finance Examination shall consist, at the choice of the candidate, of compulsory modules and elective modules as outlined below. Examination of the modules shall be in a format prescribed under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(a) Compulsory modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each compulsory module by the end of the Easter Term immediately preceding the start of the course.

(b) Elective modules

The Faculty Board shall publish the topics and form of assessment for each elective module by the end of the term immediately preceding the term in which the work is to be completed.

The Examiners shall have power to examine a candidate *viva voce* on either or both of the sections of the examination (a) and (b).

Special regulations for the M.Phil. Degree by Advanced Study:

The special regulations for certain courses have been amended and now read as follows:

BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Basic and Translational Neuroscience for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Biology; and
- (b) a report on a research project, approved or prescribed by the Degree Committee, not exceeding 10,000 words in length, including tables, figure legends and appendices, but excluding bibliography.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under (a) and (b) above and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Biological Sciences for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) assessments, falling within one of the pathways specified at the end of these regulations, and offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Biology; and
- (b) a report on a research project chosen by the candidate, subject to the approval of the Degree Committee, and not exceeding 10,000 words in length, including tables, figure legends, footnotes and appendices, but excluding bibliography.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1(b), the general field of knowledge within which such work falls and, at the discretion of the Examiners, the other pieces of work submitted towards the degree.

PATHWAYS

Biomolecular science
Cell science
Crop science

Developmental biology
Infection biology and molecular immunology
Reproduction and embryogenesis

COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Cognitive Neuroscience for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation on an individual research project, on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, comprising
 - (i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography); and
 - (ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography);
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. A list of research papers available to candidates under Regulation 1(b) shall be published by the Degree Committee no later than the end of the Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is to be held.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1(a) and (b) and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

EDUCATION

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year or two-year course of study, as specified by the pathway, in Education for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words in length, excluding footnotes, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Education;
- and*
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

The work completed under (a) and (b) shall fall within one of the pathways specified at the end of this regulation.

The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and the assessments and on the general field of knowledge within which they fall, save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

PATHWAYS

Arts, creativity, and education	Educational policy, leadership and improvement ¹
Child and adolescent psychotherapeutic counselling	Knowledge, power and politics
Critical approaches to children's literature	Mathematics education ¹
Education, globalisation, and international development	Primary education ¹
	Psychology and education ¹
	Research in second language education

¹ This pathway is available for part-time study.

FILM AND SCREEN STUDIES

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Film and Screen Studies for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation, of not more than 15,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics; and
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls; save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

FINANCE

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Finance for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of nine modules selected from a list of mandatory and optional modules published by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term next preceding the examination.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the forms of assessment from formats permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. In place of the examination prescribed for three of the modules specified in Regulation 1, the Degree Committee may permit a particular candidate to offer a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length on a topic approved by the Degree Committee.

4. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work specified in Regulations 1 and 3 and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

FINANCIAL RESEARCH

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Financial Research for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

(a) a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length, including diagrams and footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management;

and

(b) six modules selected from a list of mandatory and optional modules published by the Degree Committee not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term next preceding the examination.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the form of assessment for each, which shall be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work specified in Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Foundations of Clinical Psychology for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

(a) an individual research project on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, comprising

(i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography); and

(ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography);

(b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The list of research papers available to candidates under Regulation 1(b) shall be published by the Degree Committee no later than the end of the Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is to be held.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1(a) and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

INNOVATION, STRATEGY, AND ORGANISATION

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Innovation, Strategy, and Organisation for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

(a) a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length, including diagrams and footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management;

and

(b) six modules selected from a list of mandatory and optional modules published by the Degree Committee not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term next preceding the examination.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the form of assessment for each, which shall be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. In place of the dissertation specified in Regulation 1(a), the Degree Committee may permit a particular candidate to take three prescribed modules from a list approved by the Degree Committee.

4. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted under Regulations 1 and 3 and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE SCIENCES^[*]

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Linguistics and Language Sciences for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

(a) a dissertation not exceeding 20,000 words in length, including footnotes but excluding tables, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics; and

(b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls, and, at the discretion of the Examiners, on the assessments submitted by the candidate; save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

[*] Previously 'Theoretical and Applied Linguistics' (see *Reporter*, 6777, 2024–25, p. 441).

LITERATURE, CULTURE AND THOUGHT^[*]

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Literature, Culture and Thought for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

(a) a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics; and

(b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls; save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

[*] Previously 'European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures' (see *Reporter*, 6777, 2024–25, p. 440).

MANAGEMENT

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Management for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of eleven modules selected from a list of mandatory and optional modules published by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term next preceding the examination.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the form of assessment for each module, which will be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work specified under Regulation 1.

MOLECULAR MECHANISMS OF HUMAN DISEASE

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Molecular Mechanisms of Human Disease for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation on an individual research project, on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, comprising
 - (i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography); and
 - (ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography);
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

OBESITY, ENDOCRINOLOGY AND METABOLISM

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Obesity, Endocrinology and Metabolism for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation on an individual research project, on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, comprising
 - (i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography); and
 - (ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project, of no more than 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices, and bibliography);
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The list of research papers available to candidates under Regulation 1(b) shall be published by the Degree Committee no later than the end of the Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is to be held.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

PLANETARY SCIENCE AND LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Planetary Science and Life in the Universe for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall be as follows:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Physics and Chemistry;
- (b) a research project on a topic chosen by the candidate subject to the approval of the Degree Committee, and assessed by:
 - (i) a project synthesis of no more than 3,000 words in length (including tables, figures, figure legends and appendices but excluding bibliography and illustrative code snippets);
 - (ii) an individual written dissertation of not more than 5,000 words in length (including tables, figures, figure legends and appendices but excluding bibliography and illustrative code snippets);
 - (iii) an individual oral presentation of the work with a *viva voce* examination.

2. The Degree Committee shall publish, not later than the end of the Easter Term of the academic year preceding that in which the examination is to be held, the lists of optional modules available for the examination. In publishing the lists of modules, the Degree Committee shall announce details of the form of assessment for each module, and the number of teaching hours.

3. Any assessment for any part of the course may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

PATHWAYS

Astrophysics
Biology

Chemistry
Earth Sciences

POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Population Health Sciences for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation, of not more than 15,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding tables, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine; and
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on any or all of the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

STEM CELL MEDICINE

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Stem Cell Medicine for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a research project on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine of not more than 10,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices and bibliography), comprising
 - (i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project; and
 - (ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project;
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

STRATEGY, MARKETING, OPERATIONS AND ORGANISATIONAL BEHAVIOUR

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Strategy, Marketing, Operations and Organisational Behaviour for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length, including diagrams and footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management;

and

- (b) six modules selected from a list of mandatory and optional modules published by the Degree Committee not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term next preceding the examination.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the form of assessment for each, which shall be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. In place of the dissertation specified in Regulation 1(a), the Degree Committee may permit a particular candidate to take three prescribed modules from a list approved by the Degree Committee.

4. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted under Regulations 1 and 3 and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Technology Policy for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) the completion of six core modules and six elective modules, a list of which shall be published by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management not later than the end of the Michaelmas Term preceding the examination; and
- (b) a final group project of not more than 12,000 words in length, including diagrams and footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

2. In publishing the list of modules the Degree Committee shall announce the form of assessment for each module, which shall be offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats.

3. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1 and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

THERAPEUTIC SCIENCES

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Therapeutic Sciences for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall be as follows:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Biology; and
- (b) a dissertation not exceeding 10,000 words in length, including footnotes but excluding tables, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee and based on work carried out by the candidate in a relevant commercial or academic environment at one or more institutions approved by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination shall include an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls and on the other work submitted by the candidate. The oral examination shall be compulsory for all candidates falling on the boundaries between grades. For all other students, the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

TRANSLATING MEDICAL DEVICES AND ADVANCED THERAPIES RESEARCH

1. The scheme of examination for the one-year course of study in Translating Medical Devices and Advanced Therapies Research for the degree of Master of Philosophy shall consist of:

- (a) an individual research project on a topic proposed by the candidate and subject to the approval of the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, comprising
 - (i) a literature review of the relevant field providing background to and context for the research project, and the objectives of the research project of no more than 3,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices and bibliography); *and*
 - (ii) an account of the methods and outcomes of the research project, of no more than 7,000 words in length (excluding tables, footnotes, appendices and bibliography); *and*
 - (iii) an oral presentation on the research project.
- (b) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1(b) and on the general field of knowledge within which such work falls.

Special regulations for the M.St. Degree:

The special regulations for certain courses have been amended and now read as follows:

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ETHICS AND SOCIETY

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) Ethics and Society for the degree of Master of Studies shall be as follows:

- (a) four modules each examined by assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Philosophy;
- (b) a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words in length including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls; such an oral examination may include questions relating to one or more of the other pieces of work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee for the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Certificate to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed requirements specified in Regulation 1(a) but who has not completed or has failed to reach the necessary standard in the dissertation.

CLINICAL MEDICINE

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Clinical Medicine for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of a flexible route in which the course of study shall take place over a series of defined stages and a maximum period of no more than eight years in total.

2. The examination route shall consist of:

- (a) six core modules in clinical research, clinical education, clinical leadership, healthcare informatics, advanced clinical leadership and quality improvement, and healthcare law; and self-directed learning; all examined by assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine;
- (b) a dissertation, of not more than 10,000 words in length, or an assignment deemed its equivalent by the Degree Committee, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Research, Education and Leadership to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the first three core modules specified in Regulation 2(a) but has not completed or fails to reach the required standard in other work required under Regulation 2.

4. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the six core modules and other work specified in Regulation 2(a) but has not completed or fails to reach the required standard in the work required under Regulation 2(b).

5. At the discretion of the Examiners, the examination may include an oral examination on the work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 2(b) and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls; such an oral examination may include questions relating to one or more of the other pieces of work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 2(a).

DENTAL EDUCATION

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Dental Education for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of a flexible route in which the course of study shall take place over a series of defined stages.

2. The scheme of examination shall consist of:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine; and
- (b) a project proposal of 3,000 to 4,000 words, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee; and
- (c) a project presentation and short reflective piece of 1,500 to 2,500 words; and
- (d) a research project of not more than 10,000 words on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Certificate to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the requirements as specified in Regulation 2(a) and to a candidate who has not completed or fails to reach the required standard for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma.

4. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the requirements as specified in Regulations 2(a) but who has not completed or fails to reach the required standard in the research project.

5. The examination shall include an oral examination on the research project and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls and on the other work submitted by the candidate; save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Entrepreneurship for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Degree Committee;
- (b) a project report of not more than 12,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination may include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the project report and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Faculty Board of Business and Management the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Entrepreneurship Studies to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed nine modules from a list published by the Degree Committee, but who has either not completed or has failed to reach the necessary standard in the work required under Regulation 1(b).

HEALTHCARE DATA SCIENCE

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Healthcare Data Science for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of:

- (a) eight core modules to be announced by the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine not later than the end of the Easter Term preceding the examination;
- (b) a research project of 10,000 to 12,000 words, including footnotes but excluding tables, appendices and bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

2. Each module shall be examined by assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

3. The examination shall include an oral examination on the research project and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls and on the other work submitted by the candidate, save that the Examiners may, at their discretion, waive the requirement for an oral examination.

4. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Certificate to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the first four core modules as specified in Regulation 1(a) but who has not completed or fails to reach the required standard for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma.

5. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the first eight core modules specified in Regulation 1(a) but who has not completed or fails to reach the required standard in the research project required under Regulation 1(b).

HISTORY

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in History for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of:

- (a) three modules each examined by assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of History;
- (b) a dissertation of between 16,000 and 20,000 words in length including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee.

2. The examination shall include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination in the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Strategic Committee for the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education the award of a Postgraduate Certificate to candidates who have satisfactorily completed requirements specified in Regulation 1(a), and to candidates who have not completed, or fail to reach the standard, in the dissertation.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

1. The scheme of examination for the three-year part-time course of study in Medical Education for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of:

- (a) assessments offered in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculties of Clinical Medicine and Veterinary Medicine;
- (b) a project proposal of between 3,000 and 4,000 words, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee;
- (c) a project presentation and short reflective piece (1,500 to 2,500 words); and
- (d) a project report (8,000 to 10,000 words, or equivalent).

SOCIAL INNOVATION

1. The scheme of examination for the course of study in Social Innovation for the degree of Master of Studies shall consist of:

- (a) assessments permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats, as prescribed by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Business and Management;
- (b) a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee;

2. The examination shall include, at the discretion of the Examiners, an oral examination on the dissertation and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls, and on other work submitted by the candidate under Regulation 1.

3. The Examiners may recommend to the Degree Committee that it recommends to the Faculty Board of Business and Management the award of the Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the requirements specified in Regulation 1(a), and to a candidate who has not completed, or fails to reach the required standard in, the dissertation.

NOTICES BY FACULTY BOARDS, ETC.**Engineering Tripos, Parts IIA and IIB, 2025–26 Modules: Correction**

Further to the Notice published on 11 June 2025 (*Reporter*, 6788, 2024–25, p. 631), the Faculty Board of Engineering gives notice that the following Group M module will *not* be available for examination in Part IIB in 2025–26:

PART IIB

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mode of assessment</i>
4M2	German	coursework

Archaeology Tripos, 2025–26: Variable papers

The Faculty Board of Human, Social and Political Science gives notice of the following variable papers available for examination for the Archaeology Tripos in the 2025–26 academic year:

Part I

The following papers will be available in Part I in 2025–26:

A1	World archaeology
A2	Archaeology in action
A3	Introduction to the cultures of Egypt and Mesopotamia
B1	Humans in biological perspective
E1	Egyptian language I
M1	Introductory Akkadian language and texts

The following paper will *not* be available in Part I in 2025–26:

A4	Being human: Interdisciplinary perspectives
----	---------------------------------------------

Part IIA

The following papers will be available in Part IIA in 2025–26:

A2	Archaeology in action
E1	Egyptian language I
M1	Introductory Akkadian language and texts
A10	Archaeological theory and practice I
A11	From data to interpretation (=B5)
A21	Archaeological science
A23	European prehistory
A24	The medieval globe
A26	Mesopotamian archaeology
A28	Ancient Egypt in context: An archaeology of foreign relations
A30	The archaeology of death and burial in Ancient Egypt
A32	Ancient India 2: Early historic cities of South Asia
A34	Ancient North America and Mesoamerica
A35	The archaeology of Africa
A37	Classical art and archaeology
B2	Human ecology and behaviour
B3	Human evolution
B4	Human comparative biology
B5	From data to interpretation (=A11)
E2	Middle Egyptian text/advanced Egyptian language
E3	Old and late Egyptian texts
M2	Mesopotamian culture I: Religion, literature, and scholarship
M4	Intermediate Akkadian language and texts
M6	Sumerian language

The following year-long papers will *not* be available in Part IIa in 2025–26:

A22	Palaeolithic archaeology
A25	Mesopotamian archaeology I: Prehistory and early states
A27	Settlement and society in ancient Egypt
A29	The archaeology of religion in ancient Egypt
A31	Ancient India I: The Indus civilisation and beyond
A33	Ancient South America

Part IIb

The following year-long papers will be available in Part IIb in 2025–26:

A10	Archaeological theory and practice I
A11	From data to interpretation
A21	Introduction to archaeological science
A23	European prehistory
A24	The medieval globe/medieval Europe on a global canvas
A26	Mesopotamian archaeology
A28	Ancient Egypt in context: An archaeology of foreign relations
A30	The archaeology of death and burial in Ancient Egypt
A32	Ancient India 2: Early historic cities of South Asia
A34	Ancient North America and Mesoamerica
A35	The archaeology of Africa
B2	Human ecology and behaviour
B3	Human evolution
B4	Comparative human biology
E2	Middle Egyptian text/advanced Egyptian language
E3	Old and late Egyptian texts
M2	Mesopotamian culture I: Religion, literature, and scholarship
M4	Intermediate Akkadian language and texts
M5	Advanced Akkadian language and texts
M6	Sumerian language

The following term-long papers will be available in Part IIb in 2025–26:

A12	Archaeological theory and practice II
A13	The past in the present
A50	The co-evolution of humans and Stone Age culture (=B14)
AS3	Geographical information systems in archaeology
AS5	Human osteology (=B18)
AS6	Archaeobotany
AS8	Molecular archaeology
AS9	Archaeological materials and technologies
B11	Special topics in biological anthropology 1 (Quantitative modelling in archaeology and biological anthropology)
B12	Evolution of the human skeleton
B13	Modern human origins: Models, timescales and controversies
B15	Human sociality: Evolutionary perspectives on cooperation, culture and cognition
B16	Human evolutionary genetics: Diversity, ancestry and the human past
B17	Our extended family: Primate biology and behaviour
A62	Historical ecology

The following year-long papers will *not* be available in Part IIb in 2025–26:

A31	Ancient India I: The Indus civilisation and beyond
A40	Visual narratives
E4	Coptic
B6	Major topics in biological anthropology
M3	Mesopotamian culture II
A29	The archaeology of religion in ancient Egypt
A31	Ancient India I: The Indus civilisation and beyond
A33	Ancient South America

The following term-long papers will *not* be available in Part IIb in 2025–26:

A51	Special topics in European prehistory
A52	Special topics in historic Europe (Britain AD 300–800)
A54	Special topics in regional archaeology 1 (Prehistoric art)
A55	Special topics in regional archaeology 2
A57	Special topics in regional archaeology 4
A60	Special topics in museum studies
A61	Special topics in archaeological concepts 1 (Archaeology of colonialism)
AS1	Foundation statistics (<i>This paper is running but will be taken by M.Phil. students only.</i>)
AS2	Special topics in advanced statistics/modelling
AS10	Archaeological genetics
AS12	Special topics in archaeological methods 2

OBITUARIES

Obituary Notices

JAMES ANTHONY TREVITHICK, M.A., Life Fellow, former Director of Studies and College Lecturer in Economics and onetime Praelector of King's College, member of Fitzwilliam College, sometime University Lecturer in the Faculty of Economics, twice Proctor (Senior), died on 29 May 2025, aged 79 years.

ALFRED BRENDEL, KBE, (Hon.) Mus.D., (Hon.) RAM, (Hon.) RCM, FRNCM, Honorary and former Visiting Fellow of Peterhouse, inaugural Humanitas Visiting Professor in Chamber Music, Royal Philharmonic and von Bülow Medallist, recipient of the Praemium Imperiale, pianist, died on 17 June 2025, aged 94 years.

E. M. C. RAMPTON, *Registrar*

END OF THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE 'REPORTER'

REPORT OF DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 17 June 2025

A Discussion was scheduled by videoconference with Deputy Vice-Chancellor Ms Sonita Alleyne, *JE*, presiding, and the Registry's deputy, the Senior Proctor and the Junior Proctor as the attending officers.

Remarks were received as follows:

Second Joint Report of the Council and the General Board, dated 4 June 2025, on the review of examination regulations following the marking and assessment boycott

(*Reporter*, 6787, 2024–25, p. 606).

No remarks were made on this Report.

Report of the Council, dated 4 June 2025, recommending the budget and allocations from the Chest for 2025–26

(*Reporter*, 6787, 2024–25, p. 610).

Mr G. P. ALLEN (Wolfson College):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I should declare an interest as Chair of the Board of Scrutiny in 2021. In its 26th Report¹ the Board, commenting on five annual Allocations Reports proposing a deficit budget, recommended as follows:

The Board recommends that Council insists on recommending a balanced Allocations budget from now on, i.e., one that returns the University to a sustainable financial framework. Only in exceptional circumstances should the Council recommend an Allocations budget that is materially out of balance and, in such circumstances, the Council should explain to the Regent House what those exceptional circumstances are and how it will ensure that the Chest will be brought back into balance within a reasonable timeframe.

The Council's Notice² avoided making a direct response to the recommendation and instead gave a jargon-laden explanation about the deficiencies of the Chest budgeting system, and how Enhanced Financial Transparency (EFT) would improve matters, together with scope for initiatives such as Strategic Procurement and Purchasing, Re-imagining Professional Services, and Re-shaping the Estate, to produce cost efficiencies. There was to be much 'collective optimisation', 'collective decision-making', 'impact-maximising', and 'surplus enhancing' as well as 'significant communication and stakeholder engagement effort'.

Over three years later, the current Report tells us that the Finance Committee has agreed a 'roadmap' for a Finance Transformation Programme (FTP) that will require a new finance system before the goal of EFT might finally be achieved. Meanwhile the Report forecasts a deficit for the Academic University of ~£40m for 2025–26 as well as deficits for the Academic University of £20m–£40m 'for the foreseeable future'.

The Council offers little to sweeten this grim reading other than references to the possibilities of various transformation programmes to achieve unquantified efficiencies over unspecified timescales. There is no mention of the scope for Re-imagining Professional Services to reduce costs, savings by slimming down the estate may only accrue over twenty years and, as has previously been commented, EFT when rolled out will not of itself produce savings or new income. A 4% reduction in

Chest allocations will be imposed next year following a 1% reduction this year to mitigate the growth of deficits. Apart from these arbitrary cuts which cannot continue indefinitely without adversely affecting academic activities, the Council appears to have neither a plan nor timetable for achieving its laudable goal of returning the University to achieving an 'annual cashflow surplus to provide headroom for long-term renewal and academic investment'. Based on a surplus of 5% of Chest (£35m) and eliminating what appears to be a structural deficit would imply recurrent savings of £50m–£70m. Surely it is time for the Council to revisit the Board's 26th Report and present the Regent House with such a plan and timetable.

¹ *Reporter*, 6633, 2021–22, p. 62.

² *Reporter*, 6649, 2021–22, p. 283

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, do this year's proposals for allocations from the Chest hint at its abolition? This Report explains the intention to 'align bottom-up and top-down planning' while most institutions continue to 'rely on planning that is focused on the Chest' until the 'new finance system is brought in'. In preparation, this Grace will move across various of the Chest's powers to disburse funding to the General Board and the Finance Committee of the Council (acting in consultation with the General Board).

The Office for Students does not peer deeply into a university's financial affairs. It is concerned only with sustainability¹ and Cambridge's finances are relatively comfortable in that respect. But the OfS does require the University to make an Annual Financial Return, helpfully providing a Workbook.² On 6 March this year it wrote to ask for an interim return by 10 April which 'accurately represented' the University's financial position though that did not 'need to be verified before submission' or require 'approval' from the Regent House as its governing body.³ That Regent House approval is now being sought by Grace for the year to come.

The Council recommends in this Report that allocations made from 'any supplementary grants from the Office for Students and UK Research & Innovation (through Research England), which may be received for special purposes during 2025–26, be allocated by the Council', but in compliance with 'any specification made by the OfS or UKRI'. The income from grants considerably supplements the University's income from tuition fees, so maintaining the goodwill of the OfS and UKRI is important.

Funding may be put *into* the Chest in various ways. 'Save as is otherwise provided in Statutes or Ordinances, all income accruing to the University shall be credited to the account of the Chest.' The non-operational estate 'remits income to the Chest'. Under Statute J 4 'in any year in which the audited accounts show a sufficient balance the Press and Assessment Syndicate shall pay over to the University Chest such a proportion of the balance as shall be agreed upon between the Syndicate and the Council'. Income comes to the Chest when applicants for degrees pay their fees. For the degree of Bachelor of Divinity there is 'a fee of £360 for the Chest'. For a Ph.D. the fee is £462. For higher doctorates there is a fee of £582 for the Chest, but if the applicant is not found to deserve the award the Chest hands back £510. The Honorary Higher Doctorates to be granted to the honorands on 25 June do not involve their paying any fee to the Chest.

Payments *from* the Chest include ‘sums set aside by the Chest from endowments for funding various named Scholarships, Prizes and Professorships and Chancellors’ medals’. For this purpose sums ‘are paid into the Chest for the purpose by the relevant Trusts’. A new fund may be created to maintain a Professorship, such as the Pitt Professorship Fund and the Prince Philip Professorship of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Trinity College supports the Whewell Trust Fund on which ‘a first charge’ is ‘the sum of £300 to be paid in each year to the Chest to help it pay the stipend of the Whewell Professor of International Law’. In the case of the examiners for the English Poem, remuneration is to receive an ‘amount’ to be ‘determined by the Faculty Board of English within a range approved from time to time by the Council’.

Funding taken out of the Chest is principally allocated to the General Board so that it may pass it on by approving grants ‘for recurrent and for non-recurrent expenditure from the University Education Fund to the funds of Faculties, Departments, and other institutions’ under its supervision. In consultation with the Finance Committee of the Council, the General Board may adjust the allocations when there are ‘differences between actual and estimated expenditure’ on ‘pensionable stipends, wages, pensions, national insurance contributions, family allowances, and other personal emoluments’. This may be for reasons including ‘General Board purposes’, though those are not further detailed.

The present Report makes its own recommendations for allocations from the Chest which need to be approved by Grace. £464.7m is to go to the General Board for the University Education Fund and £215.2m to the Council for all purposes other than the University Education Fund. The Council does not seek to Grace, merely to ‘propose’, that existing policy for the spending of the money should continue, requiring Schools and institutions to achieve 5% reductions in overall operating expenditure (Chest and non-Chest). This is to be ‘achieved in part by a further reduction of Chest allocations to Schools and institutions in 2025–26’.

Where does this transfer of responsibilities leave the role of the Chest in the University’s financial arrangements? The *Statutes and Ordinances* see it as an actual box. Statute A II 13(b) requires that the University’s Great Common Seal shall be ‘kept’ in it. It must be ‘a chest fastened with three locks, the keys of which shall be severally kept by the Vice-Chancellor and the Proctors’. Taken out of the Chest for the purpose the Great Commons Seal may be ‘affixed to’ a document by pressing it into a patch of wax. This physical Chest will no doubt continue to be needed in order that the Great Common Seal may remain safe but accessible by the holders of those three keys. The Chest was kept in Great St Mary’s Church until it was moved across to the Old Schools where it came to reside in the Registry’s Office. It was transferred to the University Library as a loan in 2016. Has it been returned to the Registry’s keeping?⁴

However the University has two Seals. The second, the Common Seal, is protected by only two keys and need not be kept in the Chest. As in the case of the Great Common Seal ‘the Vice-Chancellor or a duly appointed deputy and the Proctors or their deputies’ must be present when it is applied. A Register is kept recording all sealings by both Seals.

A Special Ordinance under Statute F requires the Council both to supervise the ‘reserves and investments and the income and expenditure of the Chest’ under its general financial responsibilities and to make the annual Report we are now discussing, but for the purposes of this supervision the members of the Council do not have to surround the Chest in person and watch if the Great Commons Seal is taken out and used. Nevertheless the Chest remains a considerable presence in the *Statutes and Ordinances*.

Oxford’s fifteenth-century Chest had five keys held by the Vice-Chancellor and five Masters of Arts chosen by election. It was replaced in the seventeenth century by the Painted Chest decorated with coats of arms and in due course the need for a supervisory body prompted the creation of the Curators of the University Chest. The Curzon reforms of 1909 proposed a Finance Board, leaving the Curators only providing ‘an accounts office, an estates committee and office of works’. Miscellaneous accounting practice meant that the Franks Commission was faced with a formidable task in making sense of the arrangements. Their solution continued to be followed until with the North Reforms the work of the Curators passed to the Finance Division. The Finance Division is now Oxford’s Chest.

The current arrangements about Cambridge’s Chest have also taken shape piecemeal in the evolution of the University’s governance, with its Chest too becoming the responsibility of the Finance Division, but remaining in need of Graces to make changes. Given its hint about its future, perhaps the Council will explain more fully what it has in mind in its Notice in reply. The Board of Scrutiny has already given a lead in its Twenty-Ninth Report.⁵

¹ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/what-we-do/creating-voice-our-members/media-releases/universities-uk-responds-office-students>.

² <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/7602/guidance-providers-financial-information-registration.pdf>.

³ https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/3dwf1ikn/f3-notice_interim-financial-return_6-march-2025.pdf.

⁴ <https://rollingharbourlife.uk/tag/university-library-cambridge/>.

⁵ *Reporter*, 6756, 2024–25, p. 76.

Dr D. R. H. JONES (Christ’s College):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, when I saw this Report, my eye was immediately drawn to the tables and graphs in the Annexes. I am grateful to those who thought it would be helpful to add this visual material.

The point that I wish to raise concerns the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff. Data are given for FTE in a number of formats, for both Cambridge and the other Russell Group institutions.

Page references that follow are page numbers in the *Reporter*. On p. 624, the right-hand table gives data for individual institutions. For the 2023–24 academic year, the mix of FTE staff at Bristol is 43% academic plus 57% non-academic. Cambridge is 46:54. Further down the page, Oxford is 48:52. The data set is bracketed by Warwick/LSE (40:60) and UCL (54:46).

The left-hand table on p. 624 makes a different comparison. FTE data for academic and non-academic staff at Cambridge and Oxford are plotted against time between the academic years 2018–19 and 2023–24. Also plotted are the mean data for the Russell Group. In all three cases, there is an increase in non-academic staff over the period. The percentage increases for Cambridge, Oxford, and the Russell Group are 20%, 19% and 20%.

The percentage increase in academic staff in the Russell Group is 12%. This lags behind the increase in non-academic staff (20%). At Oxford, the situation is worse: 5% compared to 19%. At Cambridge, academic staff numbers have actually decreased by 4%.

Turning to the non-academic staff numbers at Cambridge, on p. 623 these are plotted against time from 2015–16 to 2023–24. Reading down from the top, lines are given for the Unified Administrative Service (UAS), Clinical Medicine, Biological Sciences, Technology, Physical Sciences, and so on. From 2018–19 to 2023–24, the increases are respectively 37%, 19%, 19%, 25%, 18%. The rate of growth of UAS posts far exceeds that of posts in the Schools.

Within the UAS, data are available from other sources for the number of FTEs allocated to different functions. For 2023–24, the major headings are: Academic 464, Development/Alumni 137, Estate Management 357, Finance 252, Health and Safety 224, Human Resources 217, Registry 63. The grand total is around 1,800.

It is reasonable to assume that non-academic posts in the Schools contribute directly to the delivery of the core mission of the University, specifically teaching and research. Examples are laboratory, workshop and computer staff, departmental administrators, staff at libraries and museums, and many more. One might think that as one gets further away from the Schools, into the reach of the UAS, the connection to the ‘sharp end of the business’ would become more tenuous; but the UAS is responsible for major functions, without which the University could not function in its current form. This does not mean that these divisions should be sheltered from scrutiny. In an environment removed from the ‘sharp end of the business’, managerialism and empire-building will tend to lead to an expansion in staff count well beyond that necessary to perform the essential functions. This may differ from one division to another. For example, Development/Alumni (137 staff) has a critical income-generating and reputational role, whereas Human Resources (217 staff) – a straightforward overhead – ought to be a standard process-oriented operation. Maybe they have been kept busy by the recent UAS hiring spree – an example of positive feedback.

To summarise, in the last five years, the Council has presided over a massive expansion in UAS posts (487, with 362 in the last two years alone) alongside a decrease in academic posts of about 250. I do not understand why Council has allowed this. They may be too close to the centre, or they may have given the centre too much autonomy. Whatever the reason, this has to stop. The Council must exert direct control over the UAS: freeze staff numbers; ruthlessly weed out non-essential activities; rationalise and optimise performance; and in the medium term, work to reduce staff numbers. The savings from this exercise should be used to restore the staff ratio to 50:50. If Exeter, Glasgow, Imperial, King’s College, Queen Mary and UCL can do it, then so must we.

Dr W. J. ASTLE (MRC Biostatistics Unit):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I am a member of the University Council and the Membership Secretary of the Cambridge Branch of the University and College Union, but these remarks are made on my own behalf.

I would like to thank the Chief Financial Officer for arranging at short notice for the inclusion of the figures summarising the recent trends in the size and composition of the University staff in Annex 4 of this Report. Similar figures appeared in last year’s Allocations Report,¹ in the Discussion of which² it was pointed out by Dr Cowley that such figures provide less information than the stratified tables of staff numbers that used to appear as appendices to the Report (e.g., *Reporter*, 6552, 2018–19, pp. 710–711). More detail is available in the ‘databook’ on the University’s Tableau server (<https://tableau.blue.cam.ac.uk>), but it seems unlikely that this digital format will be retained as an historical record. Perhaps it is worth considering an annual ‘University Statistics Number’ of the *Reporter* in which the various tables in the databook are reproduced. It should be simple enough to automate the reformatting of data from Tableau for the *Reporter*.

¹ *Reporter*, 6745, 2023–24, p. 670.

² *Reporter*, 6748, 2023–24, p. 773.

Dr S. J. COWLEY (Faculty of Mathematics):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I am a member of the Board of Scrutiny, but I speak in a personal capacity.

Is it acceptable, as noted in this Report, that ‘the deficit for the Academic University will remain within a range of £20m to £40m for the foreseeable future’? When I was one of the University’s Charity Trustees my answer to that would undoubtedly have been no.

When the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 were Discussed on 19 March 2024,¹ only Professor Evans and I contributed; in the equivalent Discussion this year, only Professor Evans spoke.² One might assume from this collective indifference that the Group’s finances are in a healthy state. However, in both years the figure viewed as the best measure of the underlying recurrent operating performance by the University, i.e. the adjusted operating surplus/(deficit) for the year as given in Appendix 1, was in deficit: £15.7m in 2023–24 and £9.5m in 2022–23. This compares with surpluses of £24.4m, £19.8m and £50.8m in 2021–22, 2020–21 and 2018–19 respectively (there was a deficit of £42.3m in 2019–20, but that might have had something to do with the pandemic).

While it is somewhat worrying that the Group is running a smallish deficit, it is even more worrying that the adjusted operating deficit of the Academic University in 2023–24 was £105m, up from £73m in 2022–23 and £47m in 2021–22 (see Table 1 of the Financial Statements for the years ended 31 July 2024 and 31 July 2023).³ Last year The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) commented that

Our ambition remains to achieve a modest, sustainable surplus for the Academic University cash flow in the long run, in order to maximise the funds available for reinvestment into the University’s mission and provide greater resilience across funding sources.

and

Within the Academic University, we are targeting a sustainable annual surplus over time, through raising revenues and utilising collective resources more efficiently, while enhancing the academic strengths of the University and investing in our people.

I can find no such ambition in the Concluding remarks this year, just a comment that

Nonetheless, we cannot be complacent. Cambridge has suffered from cost increases exceeding revenue growth within the Academic University increasing its operating deficit and this has necessitated a diversion of resources to meet this deficit that would otherwise have been available for investment.

I agree that the University cannot be complacent, e.g. in accepting that the deficit for the Academic University will remain within a range of £20m to £40m for the foreseeable future; indeed, the University should retain the ambition to achieve a modest, sustainable surplus.

Running a long-term deficit has consequences. At the Council Meeting at the beginning of June the question was posed as to whether the University might be able to use the current once-in-a-generation turmoil to recruit from the USA. The answer was negative since the University is constrained by available resources, i.e. because of the continuing in-built structural deficit (that has been recognised since at least the Allocations Report of 2020).

The University has faced financial headwinds before, e.g. at the turn of the millennium there was a succession of years when the University ran a Chest deficit. However, in the worst year, 2003–04, the RPI adjusted outturn deficit was about half of that of 2022–23 and 2023–24. In March 2003, the report of the *ad hoc* Finance Working Party (FWP), established because of these increasingly large Chest deficits, was far from complacent noting that the ‘financial problem is chronic, and cannot be allowed to continue’.⁴ The Chest deficit was eliminated within four years (there was next to no non-Chest deficit in those years).

The University has now budgeted for a Chest deficit every year since 2016–17. On the plus side, for 2019–20, 2020–21 and 2021–22 there was an outturn surplus, but with hindsight that was probably one of the few benefits of the pandemic. There has been an underlying structural deficit for the best part of a decade, and surely the time has now come to tackle it head-on (as was done by the FWP in 2003).

The ‘5% reduction in overall operating expenditure (Chest and non-Chest)’ referred to in paragraph 10 is insufficient. Further, it is frustrating that even this statement is imprecise. The reduction in non-Chest expenditure is not across the board (since it would be ludicrous not to spend grant income), but is effectively, as noted in paragraph 12, a 5% tax to be levied on external trading and Gift Aid income (applied to departments with external trading income exceeding £500k p.a.), and a similar tax on the departmental share of research overheads (to be applied to the departmental share after the usual income allocation policy has been applied to each research grant). The Report does not make clear the destination of this tax (I presume reserves), and there are rumours that several institutions have secured an exemption.

In the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024, the CFO wrote:

We are therefore embarking on a multi-year programme to modernise our systems and processes to achieve efficiencies and provide more accurate and timely information allowing better decision making within our highly devolved organisation.

We are also close to completing a long-term integrated investment plan that will ensure that as we generate funds for investment, they are used to maximum effect in pursuit of our academic mission.

However, it is not clear how deficit reduction will follow just because the Enhanced Financial Transparency (EFT) programme provides ‘reliable and transparent financial information that empowers institutions to make better informed decisions and to plan and budget in generally accepted, straightforward, and efficient ways’; tough decisions will still need to be made. The hoped-for savings from the wider Finance Transformation Programme (FTP) and the more specific Transforming Research Support implementation are nebulous, and the 10% savings from the Reshaping our Estate programme are up to 20 years away.

The Allocations Report for 2021–22⁵ noted that the ‘potential cost savings of Reimagining Professional Services had initially been identified at c. £11m (5% savings on costs of administration ~£220m)’. The current Report is silent on such savings. Have any savings been made from this or similar initiatives such as the predecessor *ourcambridge*, for which the budget in 2019–20, 2020–21 and 2021–22 was £1m (according to RMC E.434)? I find it difficult to believe that there have been savings given that the current Report notes that while the number of academics has marginally decreased from 2019–20 to 2023–24 (5,733 compared with 5,650), the number of staff ‘not on an academic contract’ has increased by 18.5% from 5,735 to 6,800 over the same period.

The current Report is also silent on the results of the Structural Improvement Fund. I believe that there are some positive outcomes of that initiative but, as I noted in my November 2020 remarks on the Allocations Report for 2020–21,⁶

My judgment, which I accept may be incorrect, is that the structural deficit is not going to be eliminated by increased revenue (in support I note the slow take-off of the Structural Improvement Fund); I wish that it was.

My current judgement is that the structural deficit is neither going to be eliminated by the change programmes, nor by a 5% across the board cut, nor by increased revenue. I wish that it was. I fear that the bottom line, again as I noted in November 2020, is that ‘staff numbers which have gone up, are going to have to come down’. Other universities have realised this, and have implemented *differential*, rather than *uniform*, reductions (in the case of Durham by voluntary severance and unfilled vacancies).⁷

There is no doubt a multitude of reasons why the University has failed to get a handle on the deficit. One of the biggest problems may well be the castration of the Resource Management Committee (RMC). For the 8 years when I was a member, that was where the key budget decisions were made (within the envelope set by the Finance Committee), and where the PVC for Planning and Resources, the Heads of School and the Head of the UAS the took responsibility for balancing the books. I gather that next week’s RMC, whose membership should now probably be bolstered by the Head of the UIS, has been cancelled for lack of business. Really?

There also seems to be a belief⁸ that once the University has EFT/FTP it will be left to the Schools, the UAS and UIS to balance their budgets. However, is such full devolution satisfactory? When an institution did less well than expected in the REF, or in a Teaching Review, the General Board did not wash its hands of the problem, but often instigated a review. The financial deficit is arguably as serious, so why this hands-off attitude? The University needs spendable reserves, so that when opportunity knocks, e.g. courtesy of Trumpian economics, the University can act. Is there not an urgent need for an overarching review of administration given its growth?

- Will a siloed approach correctly identify what is most efficiently and effectively done by the Central Bodies, Schools or Institutions? In the early 2010s there was administrative devolution from the Central Bodies to the Schools and Institutions, but without adequate resource (which probably explains some of the growth of administrative support in the Schools, etc.). Might some of this be reversed?
- Is it true that there are no ‘like-to-haves’ that the University can no longer afford?
- Are there administrative processes that have been introduced that can be eliminated at marginal risk to the functioning of the University? As a very minor example, as Convenor of the Directors of Studies of Mathematics I have now been asked to provide Minutes of the Director of Studies Committee meetings for the Senior Tutor’s Education Committee to ‘note’. Does ‘note’ include being read and acted upon? I have my doubts. In its response to the Teaching Review, the Faculty of Mathematics stated that the ‘Directors of Studies were strongly against removing Saturday lectures on pedagogical grounds’. Yet when, at the April Meeting of the Council, a Council member asked specifically

whether the Faculty of Mathematics was happy with the proposal to abolish Saturday lectures, he was told that it was. Why collate responses, Minutes, etc. unless they are going to have some effect? Are not such actions needless bureaucracy?

The 5% reduction in Chest Allocations is a first step, but it cannot be the last. The University may have decided in favour of Waitrose jam instead of Bonne Maman preserve, but at some point, gruel may be the order of the day.

¹ *Reporter*, 2023–24: 6731, p. 298; 6736, p. 492.

² *Reporter*, 2024–25: 6773, p. 294; 6778, p. 462.

³ *Reporter*: 6731, 2023–24, p. 298 and 6773, 2024–25, p. 377.

⁴ *Reporter*, 5918, 2002–03, p. 697.

⁵ *Reporter*, 6623, 2020–21, p. 717.

⁶ *Reporter*, 2020–21: 6593, p. 96; 6596, p. 150.

⁷ For example, see <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/arts-university-confirms-job-cuts-200-staff-depart-durham>.

⁸ For example, see the June All-staff Meeting at [https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/StaffHub/SitePages/Catch-up-on-the-all-staff-meeting\(1\).aspx](https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/StaffHub/SitePages/Catch-up-on-the-all-staff-meeting(1).aspx) (University account required).

COLLEGE NOTICES

Elections

Newnham College

Elected to a Fellowship in Category A with effect from 1 June 2025:

Fiona Smyth, B.Sc.Arch., B.Arch., Ph.D., *UCD*

Elected to a Junior Research Fellowship in Category B with effect from 1 October 2025:

Tatiana Wilson, M.Biochem., D.Phil., *Oxford*

Elected to a Fellowship in Category D with effect from 23 May 2025:

Kate Baker, B.A., *Oxford*, Ph.D., M.B.B.S., *UCL*, MRCPCH

Sue Jones, B.Sc., *KCL*, Ph.D., *UCL*

Elected to a Bye-Fellowship in Category H with effect from 28 May 2025:

Anna Corrigan, B.A., *Cornell*, M.A., *St Andrews*, Ph.D., *ED*

Aditi Vedi, B.Sc., M.B.B.S., *New South Wales*, M.Med., *Sydney*, Ph.D., *T*

Elected to an Honorary Fellowship in Category F with effect from 23 May 2025:

Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt, DBE, M.A., *N*

Sharan Burrow, B.A., Dip.Ed., *New South Wales*, Dip.Sp.Ed., *Charles Sturt*

Robinson College

Elected to a Fellowship in Class B from 1 October 2025:

Thomas Joseph Crawford, B.A., M.Math., *Oxford*, Ph.D., *Q*

Orsolya Katalin Petőcz, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., *SE*

Sidney Sussex College

Elected into an Honorary Fellowship with effect from 18 June 2025:

Helen Castor, M.A., Ph.D., *CAI*

Sherry Coutu, CBE, B.A., *British Columbia*, M.Sc., *LSE*, M.B.A., *Harvard*

Rt. Hon. Lady Justice Falk, DBE, M.A., *SID*

Carol Vorderman, MBE, M.A., *SID*

Vacancies

Annual College Research Fellowship competitions

A number of Colleges propose to hold competitions for Research Fellowships tenable from the start of the academic year 2026–27 with closing dates for application on or near 1 October 2025. Advertisements will appear online at <https://www.jobs.cam.ac.uk/college/> not later than 31 August 2025. Advertisements for competitions with a later closing date will normally appear in the *Cambridge University Reporter* and the *Oxford University Gazette*, as well as online, not less than 28 days before the closing date.

Trinity College: Junior Research Fellowships 2026 (several available, any subject); tenure: up to four years from October 2026; salary: £35,420 plus allowances; closing date: 28 August 2025; further details: <https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/vacancies/junior-research-fellowships-2026/>