

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REPORTER

No 6820

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2026

VOL CLVI No 25

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UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

NOTICES

Calendar

25 March, *Wednesday*. Lent Term ends. Last ordinary issue of the *Reporter* in Lent Term.

28 March, *Saturday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

5 April, *Sunday*. Easter Day. Scarlet Day.

11 April, *Saturday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

17 April, *Friday*. Easter Term begins.

22 April, *Wednesday*. First ordinary issue of the *Reporter* in Easter Term.

28 April, *Tuesday*. Full Term begins. Discussion by videoconference at 2 p.m. Mere's Commemoration Sermon in St Benedict's Church at 11.45 a.m. Preacher, The Very Reverend Professor David Fergusson, OBE, FRSE, FBA, Fellow-Commoner of Magdalene College, Regius Professor of Divinity, Dean of HM Chapel Royal in Scotland.

Election to the Board of Scrutiny

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice of an election to fill a vacancy on the Board of Scrutiny under Statute A VII in class (c)(ii) (members of the Regent House), following the resignation of Dr Richard Lloyd. The person elected will serve with immediate effect until 30 September 2027.

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 membership are welcomed.

The Board of Scrutiny consists of:

- (a) the Proctors;
- (b) the two Pro-Proctors nominated by the Colleges;
- (c) 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*, 2024, 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 Dr Judith Plummer Braeckman (email: chair@scrutiny.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 Thursday, 9 April 2026**. The Vice-Chancellor asks candidates to address their nominations to the Director of Governance and Compliance by email including electronic signatures to Registry@admin.cam.ac.uk. The nomination (which can be made on a form available on the Regent House site)¹ 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).

In accordance with the regulations governing the election (*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 118), those standing for election should send to the Director of Governance and Compliance, by 12 noon on Thursday, 9 April 2026, 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 Monday, 20 April and close at **5 p.m. on Thursday, 30 April 2026**. Hardcopy voting papers and supporting materials will be distributed not later than Monday, 20 April to those who opted in November 2025 to vote on paper; the last date for the return of voting papers is 5 p.m. on Thursday, 30 April 2026.

¹ A nomination form is available at: <https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/RegentHouse/Shared Documents/ScrutinyNominationFormET2026-cii.pdf> (University account required).

Sermons before the University in 2026–27

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that the following dates have been appointed in the manner prescribed by Ordinance for Sermons to be delivered during the next academic year:

Michaelmas Term 2026
18 October 2026 (Select Preacher)
1 November 2026 (Commemoration of Benefactors, Lady Margaret's Preacher)
Lent Term 2027
24 January 2027 (Select Preacher)
21 February 2027 (Hulsean Preacher)
Easter Term 2027
16 May 2027 (Ramsden Preacher)

The preachers will be announced in the *Reporter* later. These University Sermons will be delivered in Great St Mary's, the University Church, at 11.30 a.m. on the Sundays stated. Members of the University are reminded that they should wear academic dress when attending University Sermons. All are welcome and those present will be invited to take refreshments with the Preacher afterwards.

Report of the General Board on exchanges of Professorships: Notice in response to Discussion remarks

24 March 2026

The Council has received the remarks made at the Discussion on 9 December 2025 concerning the above Report* (*Reporter*, 2025–26: 6804, p. 118; 6808, p. 191). It has consulted with the General Board in preparing this response.

The Council and the General Board agree with Mr Allen that elections to established Professorships are a serious matter for the University and that there is a need to assure academic standards. The proposal in this Report is not about lowering standards; it is about creating a sensible process to handle these occasional requests to transfer the current holder of a Professorship to another Professorship. The General Board does not consider it proportionate or appropriate for an election to be made by a Board of Electors in circumstances such as the recent case and the cases to which Mr Allen refers. Boards of Electors are expected in all cases to encourage possible candidates to apply for the advertised vacancy, and interview shortlisted applicants before making an election. The proposal in this Report is for the General Board to decide on the most appropriate process for considering individual requests based on their specific circumstances. These three cases are the only examples that the General Board is aware of, so it is difficult to provide further information on possible alternative scenarios.

The Council and the General Board agree with Professor Evans that Special Ordinance C (vii) A. 7 does not permit the transfer proposed by this Report, which is why a new provision has been put forward in the Report's recommendation. Professor Evans provides information on concerns raised in 1997–98 about a promotions exercise and quotes a comment from 1971 about the membership of a Board of Electors as evidence of 'the need to keep the General Board in its place in appointment to Professorships'. The Council does not consider these examples to be pertinent to the current proposal.

Dr Astle observes that, setting aside personal Professorships and a handful of exceptions, elections to the remaining Professorships are made by Boards of Electors following the process specified in Part B of Special Ordinance C (vii). Those existing exceptions include elections made by the General Board. This Report proposes a new addition to that list, to enable exchanges of Professorships. In those existing exceptions, the General Board decides on the most appropriate process for making an election, usually on the recommendation of another body with relevant expertise but not necessarily constituted in accordance with the membership criteria for a Board of Electors. The General Board would apply a similar approach in considering the requests anticipated in this Report, and elections using this authority would be noted in the *Reporter* in the usual way.

As Dr Astle notes, a Grace is required for a personal Professorship, but that is because under Statute C XI 2 a Grace is required for the establishment of a Professorship not already established by Statute. In the cases envisaged by this Report, a vacant Professorship already exists and therefore there is no need to seek approval by Grace for a new office.

The Council is submitting a Grace (Grace 1, p. 404) for the approval of the recommendations of this Report.

*A correction has been made to the title of this Report. It should be a Report of the General Board, as permitted by Statute A III 5, rather than a Joint Report with the Council, because its recommendation concerns a matter of academic and educational policy. The corrected title of the Report has been used in the Grace.

Report of the Council on the demolition of the former Cavendish Laboratory buildings in Cambridge West: Notice in response to Discussion remarks

24 March 2026

The Council has received the remarks made on the above Report at the Discussion on 17 March 2026 (*Reporter*, 2025–26: 6815, p. 348; 6820, p. 405).

Dr Rutter is correct to suggest that the communications referred to in his remarks could have made clear that demolition of these buildings remains subject to Regent House approval. As noted in the Report, planning permission to demolish the buildings was – unusually – achieved as part of the University’s outline planning application for Cambridge West. There was not, therefore, the usual trigger for seeking in-principle approval from the Regent House via publication of a first-stage Report, with the consequence that the present Report has been published relatively late in the process.

Professor Evans raises a question about the decisions that may be sought from the Regent House if a University building collapses, noting that this scenario is not specifically provided for in the current Statute. In that scenario, the Estates Division would be required to initiate a project to secure, safely decontaminate and complete the demolition of the collapsed building, for which Regent House approval would be required.

The Council is submitting a Grace (Grace 2, p. 404) for the approval of the recommendations of this Report.

Review of disciplinary arrangements for unestablished staff: Invitation to comment by 20 April

A review of the University’s disciplinary arrangements for unestablished academic and academic-related staff, research staff and assistant staff has been undertaken in support of the University’s People Strategy. A new, combined Disciplinary Policy is proposed and has been developed to date through a targeted, consultative approach with colleagues who advise on, or are involved in, the current arrangements.

The latest draft of the Disciplinary Policy is now available at <https://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/disciplinary-policy-draft>, accompanied by information about the approved principles for the review, a summary of the development steps taken so far, and the key changes recommended (University account required). Comments are welcome on the draft policy; no formal questions are asked and respondents may send feedback or questions to consultationresponses@admin.cam.ac.uk by 5 p.m. on Monday, 20 April 2026.

Equality and pay reporting, 2024–25

The 2024–25 Equality and Diversity Information Report is now available on the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion website at <https://www.equality.admin.cam.ac.uk/equality-reports> and on the *Reporter* website at <https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/2025-26/weekly/6820/EDI-Report-2024-25.pdf>. The Report provides a summary of activities and initiatives in support of the University’s Equality and Diversity priorities and presents an overview of equality information on the University’s staff and student communities. The report also incorporates the following:

- The mandatory **Gender Pay Gap Report 2025**, published in accordance with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017. Figures can also be viewed on the government’s gender pay gap viewing service at <https://gender-pay-gap.service.gov.uk/>.
- The **Equal Pay Review 2025**, and the **Staff Statistical Information Report 2025**, both of which are published in line with commitments made to the Regent House, arising from the Second Joint Report of the Council and the General Board on new pay and grading arrangements for non-clinical staff (*Reporter*: 6002, 2004–05, p. 745 and 6012, 2005–06, p. 56).
- The **Athena Swan Action Plan 2024–2029**, published in line with the University’s obligations under the Employment Rights Act 2025, which requires employers with over 250 employees to voluntarily publish Gender Pay Gap Action Plans by April 2026, outlining the steps being taken to reduce the pay gap.

Annual Reports

The following Annual Reports have been received by the Council and/or the General Board and are available as indicated:

Cambridge University Botanic Garden Annual Report and Accounts, 2023–24:

<https://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/the-garden/annual-report/>

Cambridge University Endowment Fund Annual Review, 2024 and 2025:

<https://www.ucim.co.uk/who-we-are/annual-reviews>

Cambridge University Endowment Trustee Body Annual Report, 2025 (University account required):

<https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/cam-only/reporter/documents/cuetb/CUETB-AnnualReport2025.pdf>

Cambridge University Libraries Annual Review, 2023–24:<https://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/stories/AR23-24>**Information Services Committee Annual Report, 2024–25 (University account required):**[https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Information Services Committee/Annual Reports/Academic Year 2024-25/ISC Annual Report 2024-25.pdf](https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Information%20Services%20Committee/Annual%20Reports/Academic%20Year%2024-25/ISC%20Annual%20Report%2024-25.pdf)**Property Board Annual Report, 2024–25 and 2023–24 (University account required):**[https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Property Board/Property Board Annual Report 2024-25.pdf](https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Property%20Board/Property%20Board%20Annual%20Report%2024-25.pdf) and[https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Property Board/Property Board Annual Report 2023-24.pdf](https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/CommitteesHub/Meetings/Property%20Board/Property%20Board%20Annual%20Report%2023-24.pdf)**Scott Polar Research Institute Review, 2024 and 2023:**<https://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/about/sprireview/>**AWARDS, ETC.****Evans Fellowships, 2026–27**

The Advisory Committee for the Evans Fund invites applications for Evans Fellowships for the academic year 2026–27, to support anthropological or archaeological research in or about Southeast Asia. Candidates are expected either to be based in Cambridge, or to plan a visit to Cambridge as part of their overall research.

For further information see <https://www.socanth.cam.ac.uk/about-us/funding/research-funding/evans-fund>. The deadline for applications is **24 April 2026 at 5 p.m.**

REGULATIONS FOR EXAMINATIONS**Classical Tripos**

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 303 and *Reporter*, 6811, 2025–26, p. 221)

With effect from 1 October 2026

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of Classics, has approved amendments to the regulations for the Classical Tripos to include references to the Ordinance for Assessment Formats and to revise requirements for the Part II dissertation. The following amendments have been made:

Regulation 13.

By retaining the list of papers but otherwise amending Regulation 13 to read as follows:

13. The examination shall consist of eight papers. Papers will be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats. The details of the permitted assessment formats for each paper shall be prescribed by the Faculty Board.

Regulation 21.

By amending Regulation 21 to read as follows:

21. Papers will be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats. The details of the permitted assessment formats for each paper shall be prescribed by the Faculty Board.

Regulation 23.

By retaining the five paper groups but amending Regulation 23 to read as follows:

23. The examination shall consist of papers assigned to five groups, A, B, C, D, E, representing five fields of study, and to a sixth group, X, representing a combination of two or more of these fields of study, and certain papers from other Triposes, as set out below.

Papers will be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats. The details of the permitted assessment formats for each paper shall be prescribed by the Faculty Board.

Regulation 27.

By amending Regulation 27 to read as follows:

27. (a) A candidate who wishes to offer a dissertation under Regulation 24 or Regulation 25 shall do so in accordance with detailed arrangements prescribed by the Faculty Board.

(b) A dissertation shall not exceed 10,000 words in length, including notes but excluding bibliography.

(c) Each dissertation shall be examined by two Examiners or by an Examiner and an Assessor, and the candidate may also be examined by them upon it *viva voce*.

Design Tripos

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 313 and *Reporter*, 6777, 2024–25, p. 429)

With effect from 1 October 2026

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of Architecture and History of Art, has approved amendments to the regulations for the Design Tripos to include references to the Ordinance for Assessment Formats. The following amendments have been made:

PART IA

Regulation 10(b).

By amending Regulation 10(b) to read as follows:

(b) to offer all papers in Section B. Papers 1.1–1.6 shall be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

PART IB

Regulation 13.

By amending the final sentence in Regulation 13 to read as follows:

Papers in Sections B and C shall be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

PART IIA

Regulation 16.

By amending the final sentence in Regulation 16 to read as follows:

Papers in Sections B and C shall be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

Part IIB

Regulation 19(b).

By amending the regulation to read as follows:

(b) to offer the paper in Section B which shall be assessed in a format permitted under the Ordinance for Assessment Formats as prescribed by the Faculty Board.

Architecture (Degree Apprenticeship) for the M.St. Degree

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 550)

With effect from 1 October 2025

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of Architecture and History of Art and the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education, has approved the insertion of the following footnote:

ARCHITECTURE (DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP)¹

¹ These regulations shall apply for candidates whose registration as a candidate for the degree commenced before 1 October 2025.

Architecture (Degree Apprenticeship) for the M.St. Degree (Revised Regulations)

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 550 and *Reporter*, 6811, 2025–26, p. 260)

With effect from 1 October 2025

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of Architecture and History of Art and the Strategic Committee of the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education, has approved the insertion of a temporary regulation to specify the year in which the revised scheme of examination comes into effect.

By inserting the following temporary regulation for the course of study in Architecture (Degree Apprenticeship) (Revised Regulations) for the M.St. Degree:

TEMPORARY REGULATION

6. These regulations shall apply for candidates whose registration as a candidate for the degree commenced on or after 1 October 2025.

Coaching for the M.St. Degree

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 552)

With effect from 1 September 2027

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Education and the Strategic Committee for the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education, has approved amendments to the scheme of examination for the course of study in Coaching for the degree of Master of Studies to restructure the course and to make revisions to the coursework assessment. The course regulations read as follows:

COACHING

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

(a) four core 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 Education;

and

(b) a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding tables and bibliography, on a subject 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, 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.

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 the Postgraduate Certificate to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed three of the core modules as specified under Regulation 1(a) but who has not satisfactorily completed all four of them.

4. 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 the Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the four core modules as specified under Regulation 1(a) but who has either not submitted a dissertation as specified in Regulation 1(b) or has failed to reach the required standard in it.

Language Centre: Certificates of Proficiency

(*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 658)

With effect from 21 January 2026

The General Board, on the recommendation of the Committee of Management for the Language Centre, has approved the amendment of the regulations for the Certificates of Proficiency to add a new subject, as follows:

Schedule of subjects approved for certificates of proficiency awarded by the Language Centre

By adding ‘Turkish Intermediate 1’.

GRACES**Graces submitted to the Regent House on 2 April 2026**

The Council submits the following Graces to the Regent House. These Graces are being published on 25 March for submission on 2 April 2026 so that there is an extended period for their consideration during the holiday period. These Graces, unless they are withdrawn or a ballot is requested in accordance with the regulations for Graces of the Regent House (*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 111), will be deemed to have been approved at **4 p.m. on Friday, 10 April 2026**. Further information on requests for a ballot or the amendment of Graces is available to members of the Regent House on the Regent House Petitions site.[§]

1. That the recommendation in paragraph 4 of the Report of the General Board, dated 19 November 2025, on exchanges of Professorships (*Reporter*, 6804, 2025–26, p. 118) be approved.¹
2. That the recommendation in paragraph 7 of the Report of the Council, dated 18 February 2026, on the demolition of the former Cavendish Laboratory buildings in Cambridge West (*Reporter*, 6815, 2025–26, p. 348) be approved.²

¹ See the Council's Notice, p. 399.

² See the Council's Notice, p. 400.

[§] Accessible by members of the Regent House at <https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/RegentHousePetitions> [University account required].

Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 28 March 2026

The Council has sanctioned the submission of the following Graces to the Regent House at a Congregation to be held on 28 March 2026.

That the following persons be admitted to the degree of Master of Arts under the provisions of Statute B II 2:

1. LAKSHMI BALASUBRAMANIAM, Fellow of Darwin College.
2. TANIA MICHELLE DAVIES, Fellow of Wolfson College.
3. ADAM CHRISTOPHER WELSTEAD, Fellow of Wolfson College.
4. XIAOLEI ZHANG, Fellow of Darwin College.
5. CHRISTINA ELISABETH ZIELINSKI, Professor of Infection/Immunity (Grade 11) in the Department of Pathology.

Grace to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 11 April 2026

The Council has sanctioned the submission of the following Grace to the Regent House at a Congregation to be held on 11 April 2026.

That the following person be admitted to the degree of Master of Arts under the provisions of Statute B II 2:

1. GIULIA MALTAGLIATI, Fellow of Downing College.

ACTA**Approval of Graces submitted to the Regent House on 11 March 2026**

The Graces submitted to the Regent House on 11 March 2026 (*Reporter*, 6818, 2025–26, p. 384) were approved on Friday, 20 March 2026.

R. B. SACHERS, *Director of Governance and Compliance*

END OF THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE 'REPORTER'

REPORT OF DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

A Discussion was convened by videoconference. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Martin Burton, *SID*, was presiding, with the Registry's deputy, the Senior Proctor, the Senior Pro-Proctor and six other persons present.

The following items were discussed:

Report of the Council, dated 18 February 2026, on the demolition of the former Cavendish Laboratory buildings in Cambridge West

(*Reporter*, 6815, 2025–26, p. 348).

Dr M. J. RUTTER (Cavendish Laboratory):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, for almost a third of a century I worked in the so-called 'Cavendish 2' buildings. But I will not be that sorry to see them go.

Single-glazed, metal-framed, windows which did not shut properly and which rattled in the wind were one of their less attractive features. Asbestos everywhere was a more major problem. My office had painted asbestos panels above its windows, a feature repeated above every window on the floor. Other materials, whilst not pure asbestos, contained asbestos fibres for strength. This included most window sills and some of the floor tiles. Almost every time that a hole needed to be drilled, or the building's wiring or plumbing adjusted, asbestos precautions were required, in case low levels of asbestos were present away from the obvious bulk sources. Quite a contrast to the practice when I first started working in the building, when it contained slightly more asbestos, but its presence rarely caused disruption.

There were rumours that the Engineering Department wished to use the buildings as they are, and I think it was wise to reconsider.

But there is one concern I have about this Report. That arises from an email sent to the Physics Department on 13 February which stated:

The University's Estates Division have announced that following the comprehensive programme of chemical and asbestos decontamination, the careful demolition of the six buildings, which will not be required in the future, will start in summer 2026. ... Following demolition there will be a cycle route across the Cambridge West site. Plans for future use of the site have not yet been finalised.

The same details are also to be found on a public webpage of the Estates Division.¹

I find the ordering of the Council's Report, the future consideration by the Planning and Resources Committee and publication of a Grace, and the public announcement of demolition, to differ from that which would be expected if either the Council or the Regent House were a governing body, and not a rubber-stamping device.

¹ <https://www.em.admin.cam.ac.uk/what-we-do/developing-our-estate/demolition-cavendish-ii>.

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History), received by the Proctors:

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, both Reports for Discussion today recommend that the Regent House take short-cuts. The Report of 1991 on the Development of the West Cambridge Area, spoke of 'the attractive views of the countryside beyond the City fringe, as seen from West Cambridge' as something 'which should be safeguarded'. The continuing need to protect those views will strike anyone driving into Cambridge from the West. The demolition of these disused buildings will surely help.

At p. 1053 of the *Statutes and Ordinances* the Financial Regulations state that 'approval by Grace of the Regent House shall be required for the sale or transfer of any real or leasehold property belonging to the University'. This Report sets out a plan which relies on an abbreviated process in the case of the proposed demolition of the former Cavendish Laboratory buildings in Cambridge West ('Cavendish II') the Council relies on 'the revised process for seeking Regent House approval for building projects'. It includes a recommended Grace.

Statute F bundled Finance, Audit, Planning and Resource Management together with 'Buildings' when the present Statutes gained royal approval in 2014. That has left much at the disposal of Ordinances created under Statute F, which currently set out at p. 1054 the sequence which has been followed in the present case. The Finance Committee and the General Board jointly 'issue regulations for the financial and operational management of University sites and buildings'. The Estates Committee acts 'subject to any sites and buildings regulations approved by the Council, the Finance Committee and the General Board from time to time'. However 'in order to fulfil its purpose', the Estates Committee 'may need to exercise the powers of the University to enter into or carry out transactions in relation to the University's property and the management of that property', but only to the extent that their exercise falls within the scope of its delegated authority.

Permission for demolition having been achieved as part of the University's outline planning application for Cambridge West as approved in 2024, now, 'consistent with the revised process for seeking Regent House approval for building projects, the Council expects only to publish a second-stage Notice and Grace, provided there are no material changes to the project'. It is confident that compliance with Statute F's requirements about the University's buildings may be reduced from three stages to two because no difficulties became apparent when planning consent was sought, though the business case is yet to be approved. 'The full business case will be determined by the PRC [Planning and Resources Committee] at a meeting in Easter Term 2026.'

This is a process which has taken some time to arrive at a recommendation for the Regent House to approve, perhaps prompting the stated wish to shorten the process. In its statement on 'Demolition of Cavendish II' the Estates Division tells the story so far after the construction of the Cavendish Laboratory on the Cambridge West site was approved by Grace 3 of 7 February 2018 as a new building.¹ It is noted that these buildings, constructed in the 1970s, are now unsafe, as has proved to be the case with a number of the buildings in RAAC concrete dating from the same period, on which the University has made more than one apologetic statement.²

What if any is the implication for the applicability of Statute F II should a building simply collapse so that the University retains the land but no longer has that ‘property’ on it? Might this be a moment to consider review of Statute F? The Statutes and Ordinances have a good deal to say about the land of both the University and its Colleges, but nothing as neatly encapsulated as Oxford’s Statute XVI 4 which requires its counterpart of a Grace braced on the ‘area’ which triggers the need for a Resolution of Congregation:

No allocation for University purposes of a site the area of which exceeds 1,000 square metres, or of a building the overall floor area of which exceeds 600 square metres, shall be made unless approved by resolution of Congregation under section 1 of Statute IV.

¹ <https://www.em.admin.cam.ac.uk/what-we-do/developing-on-estate/demolition-cavendish-ii>.

² See <https://www.cam.ac.uk/notices/news/university-statement-on-reinforced-autoclaved-aerated-concrete-updated>.

Report of the Council, dated 18 February 2026, on changes to Statutes J 4 and C XV

(*Reporter*, 6815, 2025–26, p. 349).

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History), received by the Proctors:

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Regent House is asked to request the King in Council to substitute ‘allocate for application at the discretion of the Council’ for the words ‘pay over to the University Chest’ in Statute J. Historically the Privy Council takes a respectful view of such petitions, in the confidence that the University knows what it is doing but it is worth bearing in mind the difference between changes to Ordinances and Special Ordinances which require only Regent House consent and those requiring royal consent as is the case for all Cambridge Statutes (though only some of Oxford’s Statutes).

I believe the Chest still stands as a physical object in the Registry’s Office, the Registry having custody of the keys needed to open it. It seems safe enough there. Constitutionally speaking mention of it may, however, be moved in and out of the *Statutes and Ordinances*. This Report proposes to tidy up the missed deletion of a mention which was ‘overlooked’ on a previous occasion when both the Regent House and the Privy Council approved the removal of references to the Chest from the Statutes.¹

I see that I was the only speaker in the Discussion of February 2023 on the Report of the Council on the transfer of parts of Statute concerning the Chest to Special Ordinance. The Council responded in a Notice dated 8 March 2023 in which it said it agreed the use of Special Ordinances ‘should be reviewed’ and would ‘aim to initiate that review before the tenth anniversary of their introduction in February 2024’.² Meanwhile the proposed Grace was approved.³ But what came of the promised review of the use of Special Ordinances?

Statute J 4 concerns ‘Press and Assessment’, which conjoined the Cambridge University Press with ‘Assessment’ from 2021 and stipulates arrangements for dealing with the income generated and the circumstances in which ‘the audited accounts show a sufficient balance’ for transfer of income ‘over to the University Chest’ to be appropriate.

It is perhaps worth noting the effect of adjustments made a few years ago. On 24 February 2021 a Report of the Council on recognition of the merger of Cambridge University Press and Cambridge Assessment in the University’s Statutes and Ordinances⁴ explained that this endorsed a proposal which had been made by what was then the Local Examinations Syndicate. That and the Press had formed two ‘businesses’, which were to be merged, with the Ordinance for the Local Examinations Syndicate rescinded. The new Press and Assessment Syndicate was to have its own seal and a Board whose membership was not to be confined to members of the Senate, providing ‘more flexibility’. The Council said it intended ‘to review further the overall governance arrangements for the merged businesses once the operational matters arising from the merger have had time to bed down’.⁴

Where has this got to? Statute J allows Press and Assessment not only to concern itself with publishing but also ‘engage in provision of associated services’. ‘On the advice of its Finance Committee’ the Council may ‘assume full responsibility itself for the management of the Press and Assessment Department for the time being’. If it does so it must ‘make a full report to the University on the circumstances necessitating such action’. The Council may also designate ‘which postholders in the Press and Assessment Department shall be treated as University officers’.

It would be helpful to have an update about the roles of such officers and in a Report if that is needed. The University is no longer shy of business and commerce and beyond Press and Assessment the Judge Business School offers an Executive M.B.A. with a Global version and a Business Doctorate which surely need to be ‘delivered’ at least in part by University officers.

Tucking miscellaneous extras into a Report is perhaps undesirable, but this Report includes another adjustment of some importance, the renumbering of Statute C XV as Statute C XIV. This follows from the rescission of Statute C XIV concerning Associate Lecturers with effect from 1 October 2025.

The online version of the Statutes does not seem to have caught up with this change. Perhaps it should be updated from the 2024 version which is still there at present and is not yet listed among the ‘previous editions’ on the helpful website which explains that amendments approved during the 2019–20 academic year when ‘production was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, are only available in pdf format’.⁵ Copies of the printed edition of the *Statutes and Ordinances* may be purchased for £25, but it looks at least though the version of the Statutes dated 2024 is the most recent version available for consultation online.

¹ See Grace 2 of 8 March 2023 (*Reporter*, 6691, 2022–23, p. 454).

² *Reporter*, 6691, 2022–23, p. 443.

³ *Reporter*, 6693, 2022–23, p. 481.

⁴ *Reporter*, 6608, 2020–21, p. 380.

⁵ <https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/so/>.

COLLEGE NOTICES**Elections****Downing College**

Elected to the Kim and Juliana Silverman Research Fellowship with effect from 20 March 2026:

Maria-Andreea Filip, M.A., M.Sci., Ph.D., *CC*

Newnham College

Elected to a Fellowship in Category D with immediate effect:

Professor Pippa Rogerson, M.A., *N*, Ph.D., *CAI*

Vacancies

Clare Hall: The Sir Nicholas Shackleton Fellowship; tenure: from January 2027 for six months (minimum) to a year (maximum); non-stipendiary but benefits apply; closing date: 4 May 2026; further details: <https://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/the-sir-nicholas-shackleton-fellowship/>

Magdalene College: College Assistant Professor in English; tenure: from 1 September 2026 for three years and eleven months in the first instance (with the possibility of renewal to a permanent position); stipend: £38,636–£42,091 depending on experience; closing date: 20 April 2026 at 12 noon; further details: <https://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/about/vacancies/academic-vacancies>

Domestic Bursar; tenure: from September 2026; salary: £85,000; closing date: 22 April 2026 at 12 noon; further details: <https://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/about/vacancies/non-academic-vacancies> and <https://www.minervasearch.com/current-opportunities/magdalene/>

Newnham College: Postdoctoral Affiliates (several posts available, women applicants only); tenure: from 1 October 2026 for one year, with the possibility of renewal for up to three years; non-stipendiary but collegiate benefits apply; closing date: 13 May 2026; further details: <https://newn.cam.ac.uk/vacancy/postdoctoral-affiliates-0>

Robinson College: Head of Academic Skills; tenure: three years from October 2026; salary: £28,778; closing date: 17 April 2026; further details: <https://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/about-robinson/job-vacancies/head-academic-skills>

SOCIETIES, ETC.**Cambridge Philosophical Society****One-Day Meeting**

‘David MacKay: Energy and information’, a one-day meeting dedicated to the memory of Professor Sir David MacKay, will take place on Friday, 27 March 2026 from 9 a.m. to 5.45 p.m., in person at the Department of Engineering, Trumpington Street, and online via livestream; free and open to all; registration recommended; further details: <https://www.cambridgephilosophicalsociety.org/events/event/one-day-meeting-david-mackay-energy-and-information>

EXTERNAL NOTICES**Oxford Notices**

Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Science and St Hilda’s College: Professorship of Regulatory Health Data Science; tenure: from August 2026 or as soon as possible thereafter; closing date: 27 April 2026 at 12 noon; further details: <https://www.recruit.ox.ac.uk>, vacancy ID: 185685

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