

# CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REPORTER

No 6784

WEDNESDAY 21 MAY 2025

VOL CLV No 33

## CONTENTS

### Notices

Calendar	558
Discussion on Tuesday, 3 June 2025	558
Amending Statutes for Hughes Hall: Correction	559

### Notices by Faculty Boards, etc.

Chemical Engineering Tripos, Part IIB, 2025–26	559
--	-----

### Reports

Joint Report of the Council and the General Board on a revised approach to examination allowances	560
---	-----

### Graces

Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 23 May 2025	562
Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 24 May 2025	562

### Acta

Result of ballot on Grace 1 of 12 February 2025 (ACP (R) proposals)	563
---	-----

*End of the Official Part of the 'Reporter'*

### Report of Discussion: 13 May 2025

Joint Report of the Council and the General Board on reform of undergraduate admissions governance	564
Report of the Council on the disposal of the Mill Lane North site to King's College	565

### College Notices

Elections	566
Vacancies	566
Memorial Service	566

### Societies, etc.

Society for the History of the University	566
---	-----

### External Notices

Oxford Notices	566
----------------	-----



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

## NOTICES

## Calendar

21 May, *Wednesday*. Easter Term divides.

23 May, *Friday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

24 May, *Saturday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

29 May, *Thursday*. Scarlet Day. Ascension Day.

3 June, *Tuesday*. Discussion by videoconference at 2 p.m. (see below).

8 June, *Sunday*. Scarlet Day. Whitsunday. Preacher before the University at 11.30 a.m., Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, Global Migration Leader for the Council of Bishops and Strategic Leader for the Holistic Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean of The United Methodist Church. Ramsden Preacher.

15 June, *Sunday*. Scarlet Day. Trinity Sunday.

## Discussions (Tuesdays at 2 p.m.)

3 June

17 June

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

23 and 24 May

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

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

24, 25 and 26 July

## Discussion on Tuesday, 3 June 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, 3 June 2025 at 2 p.m. The following item will be discussed:

1. Joint Report of the Council and the General Board, dated 19 May 2025, on a revised approach to examination allowances (p. 560).

Those wishing to join the Discussion by videoconference should email [UniversityDraftsman@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto: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](mailto:contact@proctors.cam.ac.uk), copying [ReporterEditor@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ReporterEditor@admin.cam.ac.uk), by no later than 10 a.m. on the day of the Discussion for reading out by the Proctors,<sup>1</sup> 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 House<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto: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/>.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.scrutiny.cam.ac.uk/> and [https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/regent\\_house\\_roll/section1.shtml](https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/regent_house_roll/section1.shtml).

## Amending Statutes for Hughes Hall: Correction

Further to the Notice dated 8 May 2025 (*Reporter*, 6783, 2024–25, p. 553), the proposed Statutes document originally posted on the Hughes Hall website was found to contain errors. A corrected version of the document, posted on 19 May 2025, is now available on the College website at <https://www.hughes.cam.ac.uk/about/policies-and-documents/statutes-revisions/>. The document submitted to the University for consideration was correct and unaffected.

## NOTICES BY FACULTY BOARDS, ETC.

### Chemical Engineering Tripos, Part IIB, 2025–26

The Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology Syndicate gives notice that the modules available for study in Part IIB of the Chemical Engineering Tripos in the 2025–26 academic year will be as follows.

Topics in Group A and Group D are compulsory for all candidates. The regulations specify that each candidate takes a total of six modules from Groups B and C. The Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology Syndicate imposes the restriction that at least two of these modules should be chosen from Group B, and at least two should be chosen from Group C. Further at least two of the six modules chosen from Groups B and C should be assessed principally or entirely by written examination.

<i>Group</i>	<i>Number and title of module</i>	<i>Mode of assessment</i>
A	A1: Compulsory topics: Energy technology Sustainability	Examination and coursework
	A2: Chemical product design	Coursework
B	B2: Electrochemical engineering	Examination
	B3: Pharmaceutical engineering	Examination
	B4: Rheology and complex fluids	Examination and coursework
	B5: Computational fluid dynamics	Coursework
	B7: Interface engineering	Examination
	B8: Adsorption and advanced nanoporous materials	Examination and coursework
C	C1: Optical microscopy	Examination
	C5: Foreign language	Coursework
	4G2: Bioelectronics	Coursework
	C7: Bionanotechnology	Examination and coursework
	C9: Biotechnology of vaccines	Examination and coursework
D	Research project	

## REPORTS

### Joint Report of the Council and the General Board on a revised approach to examination allowances

The COUNCIL and the GENERAL BOARD beg leave to report to the University as follows:

1. The Council and the General Board, on the recommendation of the Board's Education Committee, propose changes to examination allowances system and the remedies offered to students hindered by illness or other grave cause while undertaking examinations.

2. The proposals respond to:

- (a) concerns raised in June 2023 by the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) that for students whose examination performance is affected by mitigating circumstances, the University should 'consider offering re-sits as one of the first options available to it, not one of the last';
- (b) recommendations raised in October 2023 following an external review commissioned by the Board's Education Committee on the University's approach to examination and assessment adjustments, allowances and mitigation, which suggested that 'the University considers introducing resits as a standard option where a student is unable to sit the initial exam';
- (c) the responses to a collegiate University-wide consultation on re-sit examinations conducted in Easter Term 2024, which showed little appetite for a re-sit examination as a standard option in response to illness or grave cause in examinations.

3. Further consultation took place with internal and external stakeholders in Michaelmas Term 2024 and there was a call for feedback from across the collegiate University in Lent Term 2025, which included responses from those managing every Tripos. The Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) was also consulted in Michaelmas Term 2024 to ensure that the proposals would, if approved, be compliant with the OIA's Good Practice Framework and in line with the recommendations it has made in response to student complaints. The output of the consultations has informed the proposals now submitted for approval.

4. The proposed changes to the examination allowances system provide simplified options for first- and second-year students taking Tripos examinations, to create capacity to provide more resource-intensive but meaningful allowances for final-year Tripos students. The allowance options for final-year students include disregarding examination components worth up to and including 25% of the Tripos Part or, where more than 25% of components are affected, permitting re-assessment. Where re-assessment is not possible, and provided academic criteria for the relevant award have been met, there will be options to declare the student to have attained the honours standard<sup>1</sup> or to offer the Ordinary B.A. Degree. For postgraduate taught students, where approved by the Degree Committee, disregarding examination components worth up to and including 25% shall be permitted, or alternatively, an opportunity for re-assessment will be provided.

5. The remedies outlined above will only be available to students hindered in examinations by illness or grave cause who meet the relevant criteria, and where the student has submitted the relevant part of the application and evidence to the College within 7 days of the examination (or their final examination within the same examination period) taking place.

6. The amendments proposed are to provisions in Ordinance, which give the General Board authority to provide a remedy for students hindered by illness or other grave cause. The amendments will enable the General Board to provide remedies that maintain academic standards and provide students with a fair opportunity to demonstrate their level of achievement in relation to the academic standards required for their course.

7. If this Report's recommendation is approved, the General Board has agreed to amend the General Regulations for Certain Postgraduate Degrees and Other Qualifications and its Notice on Leave for Allowances to Candidates for Examinations with effect from 1 October 2025, as set out in Annex A (see p. 561). It will also update related guidance.

8. The changes in Annex A include an amendment to paragraph (iii) of the Notice to clarify the maximum period of registration that is permissible beyond the expected end date for the course. Students hindered by illness or other grave cause during their studies will need a period of intermission before they can return to – and meaningfully engage with – their studies. Such students will not meet the criteria to be granted an allowance. The proposed maximum period of registration will give students clarity on whether a period of intermission or long coursework extension would be permitted, providing the student's circumstances meet the relevant criteria. The three-year period proposed does not affect students who, as a reasonable adjustment, are planning to complete one year's full-time study over two years. The three-year period has been proposed, in preference to a period of two years with an exceptional third year, so that all students are treated equally, and those less able to advocate for themselves as falling within the exceptions are not disadvantaged. This maximum period of registration relates to students on the following courses:

- Foundation year (Certificate of Higher Education in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)
- Undergraduate (Tripos) courses (including those on integrated Master's courses); and
- The following postgraduate courses:
  - Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and Executive M.B.A.
  - Master of Law (LL.M.)
  - Master of Accounting (M.Acc.)
  - Master of Advanced Study (M.A.St.);
  - Master of Corporate Law (M.C.L.)
  - Master of Finance (M.Fin.)
  - Master of Music (M.Mus.)

**9. The Council and the General Board recommend** that, with effect from 1 October 2025, in the Ordinance for Allowances to Candidates for Examinations (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 254), Regulation 6 be deleted, Regulations 3(d) and 8 be amended and Regulation 3(e) be added to read as follows, and cross-references and numbering updated:

- [3.](d) to require the Chair of Examiners, or a deputy appointed by the Chair from among the Examiners, to disregard examination components worth up to and including 25% of the Tripos Part or of the course (where that course is examined as a single entity), and calculate the candidate's results on the basis of the remaining components;
- (e) to require the Chair of Examiners or a deputy appointed by the Chair from among the Examiners, after consulting at least two other Examiners, to determine the candidate's overall degree classification on the basis of
  - (i) examination for Tripos Parts unhindered by illness or grave cause; and/or
  - (ii) examination permitted to be examined under other than the ordinary conditions.

**8.** In the case of a candidate who has been granted an allowance a statement shall be appended to any certificate issued by the Registry relating to that examination confirming that the candidate has been granted an allowance in accordance with the University's regulations, that the authorities concerned are of the opinion that the candidate was hindered by illness or grave cause and the marks recorded do not adequately represent the candidate's attainment.

19 May 2025

DEBORAH PRENTICE,  
Vice-Chancellor  
SARAH ANDERSON  
WILLIAM ASTLE  
GAENOR BAGLEY  
JOHN DIX

HEATHER HANCOCK  
SCOTT MANDELBROTE  
EWA MAREK  
SALLY MORGAN  
RICHARD MORTIER  
ALEX MYALL

MEZNA QATO  
JASON SCOTT-WARREN  
ALAN SHORT  
PIETER VAN HOUTEN  
ANDREW WATHEY  
GARTH WELLS

19 May 2025

DEBORAH PRENTICE,  
Vice-Chancellor  
KATIE CLARKE  
RICHARD MORTIER

NIGEL PEAKE  
RICHARD PENTY  
ALAN SHORT  
JON SIMONS

PIETER VAN HOUTEN  
BHASKAR VIRA  
JOCELYN WYBURD

## ANNEX A

The General Board has agreed to revise the following General Board Regulations and General Board Notice as set out below with effect from 1 October 2025, if this Report's recommendation is approved.

(a) By amending Regulation 18 of the General Regulations for Certain Postgraduate Degrees and Other Qualifications (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 436) to read as follows:

**18.** If the Tutor of a candidate for the M.Phil. Degree by advanced study, M.Res., M.Ed., M.St., C.P.G.S., Advanced Diploma in Economics or Hebrew Studies, or Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Studies or International Law supplies the General Board with satisfactory evidence that the candidate has been hindered by illness or other grave cause in preparing for or taking the examination or any part of the examination for the degree, and that evidence is received by the deadline set out in guidance issued by the General Board for this purpose,<sup>[1]</sup> the General Board shall have the power either

- (a) to disregard examination components worth up to and including 25% of the course and calculate the candidate's results on the basis of the remaining components, provided that no candidate shall be so approved unless the Degree Committee or representative of the Degree Committee concerned judges that candidate to have performed with credit in a substantial part of the examination; or
- (b) to allow the candidate to be examined or re-examined under such conditions and at such time as may be determined by the General Board after consultation with the Degree Committee concerned.

Decisions of the General Board will be subject to review under the Procedure for the Review of Decisions of University Bodies.

<sup>[1]</sup> The General Board has delegated the approval of guidance for this purpose to the Examination Access and Mitigation Committee. See: <https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/exams/about-eamc/guidance-notes-and-application-forms>.

(b) In the General Board's Notice on Leave for Allowances to Candidates for Examinations (reproduced in *Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 256), by amending existing paragraphs (iii), (v) and (vii) and inserting new paragraph (xi) to read as follows:

- (iii) An allowance made under Regulation 1(b) is normally granted in respect of up to three terms of an academic year. It may be granted in respect of the terms of up to three academic years.
- (v) All applications must be supported by independent, contemporaneous evidence; an application made on medical grounds must be supported by medical evidence. The Committee may determine which type of evidence it requires in relation to applications under particular regulations. Evidence must be received by the deadline set out in guidance issued by the Committee for this purpose.
- (vii) First- and second-year students taking Tripos examinations shall be limited to allowances listed under Regulations 3(a) and 3(e)(i).
- (xi) Decisions of the Committee will be subject to review under the Procedure for the Review of Decisions of University Bodies.

## GRACES

### Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 23 May 2025

The Council has sanctioned the submission of the following Graces to the Regent House at a Congregation to be held on Friday, 23 May 2025.

That the following person be admitted to the degree of Doctor of Law by incorporation:

1. IGNATIUS JOHN KEOWN, Fellow of Wolfson College, Doctor of Civil Law of the University of Oxford (2015).

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

2. ALEXANDER DOUGLAS CARLYLE, Global Tax Director (Finance) in the Press and Assessment Department.
3. MYLES PETER MCGINLEY, Director of Regulation & Business Performance (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations (OCR)) in the Press and Assessment Department.
4. VANESSA LYNDSEY MCPHEE, Chief Financial Officer (Chief Executive Office) in the Press and Assessment Department.
5. ANN MARIA NEIL, Global Marketing and Insights Director (Cambridge English) in the Press and Assessment Department.
6. HELENA MARGARET RENFREW KNIGHT, Chief Strategy Officer (Chief Executive Office) in the Press and Assessment Department.
7. CATRIONA ANN SHERET, General Counsel (Chief Executive Office) in the Press and Assessment Department.
8. CHARLOTTE ANTONIA CAMACHO YOUNG, Director of Organisational Development (People and Culture) in the Press and Assessment Department.
9. MARIA CRISTINA ZARA, Director of Finance Transformation (Finance) in the Press and Assessment Department.

### Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 24 May 2025

The Council has sanctioned the submission of the following Grace to the Regent House at a Congregation to be held on Saturday, 24 May 2025.

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

1. DAVID MORDECHAI FAVARA, Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Oncology.

ACTA

Result of ballot on Grace 1 of 12 February 2025 (ACP (R) proposals)

16 May 2025

The Registry gives notice that, as a result of the ballot on the Academic Career Pathways (Research) scheme proposals held between 6 and 15 May 2025, Grace 1 of 12 February 2025 was **approved in its original form**. For information about the Grace and the amendment, see the Notice dated 24 March 2025 (*Reporter*, 6778, 2024–25, p. 456).

The results of the voting, conducted under the Single Transferable Vote regulations (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 121), are as follows:

Number of valid votes: 1,643 (no invalid votes)      (Quota: 822)

	<i>First count</i>	<i>RESULT</i>
(A) In favour of the Grace in its original form	904	APPROVED
(B) In favour of the Grace as amended	340	
(C) Against the Grace, whether in its original or amended form	399	
Total	1,643	

Fly-sheets received in relation to this ballot will be published in the *Reporter* on 29 May 2025.

E. M. C. RAMPTON, *Registry*

END OF THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE ‘REPORTER’



## REPORT OF DISCUSSION

**Tuesday, 13 May 2025**

A Discussion was convened by videoconference. Deputy Vice-Chancellor The Rt Hon. Lord Smith of Finsbury, *PEM*, was presiding, with the Registry's deputy, the Junior Proctor, the Junior Pro-Proctor and fifteen other persons present.

Remarks were made as follows:

***Joint Report of the Council and the General Board, dated 27 April 2025, on reform of undergraduate admissions governance***

(*Reporter*, 6781, 2024–25, p. 534).

Dr M. J. THOMPSON (Office of Intercollegiate Services and St Edmund's College):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I am the current intercollegiate Director of Undergraduate Admissions. In this role I have been working with colleagues across the collegiate University to find a reformed model of the committees overseeing undergraduate admissions which would be acceptable to the 29 undergraduate Colleges, and to the University. The proposals approved by the General Board and the Council are the result of extensive consultation with the Colleges (in Michaelmas Term 2023, Easter and Michaelmas Terms of 2024, and the Lent Term of 2025) and have been unanimously approved by the Senior Tutors' Committee under delegated authority from the Colleges' Committee.

The Strategic Review on Admissions and Outreach which reported in July 2021, was set up to deal with perceived problems in the way undergraduate admissions is organised. Its terms of reference included the need to consider the following points relating to governance:

- avoiding duplication in Committee business and membership;
- achieving clear and transparent decision-making;
- determining how College and University interests can be effectively represented at all levels, without multiplicity of effort; and
- whether or not Faculties and Departments should be more involved in admissions.

Four models have been considered. The first two, A and B, were suggested by the Strategic Review in 2021. Further refinements were made to these, resulting in models C and D. The latter two models were considered by the Colleges' Committee in October 2022. Model D was approved in principle by the General Board on 2 June 2023, and the Colleges' Committee on 8 July 2023, as the basis for a future model.

The reformed Undergraduate Admissions Committee would act as a discrete decision-making body, where 'decision-making' would be constrained by the agreed processes and principles for intercollegiate agreements. The Committee will have a voice from each undergraduate-admitting College and School, to enable better communication and information-sharing across the intercollegiate University for improved decision-making. Formal reporting would be to the General Board (through its Education Committee) and appropriate College bodies (either directly, or through the Colleges' Committee in cases of serious dispute) for information and ratification.

The joint College/University nature of the current UAC would be preserved, with the reformed UAC now invested with decision-making authority over matters concerning undergraduate admissions. The reformed UAC would also serve as a fourth principal intercollegiate committee for the Colleges, with intercollegiate decisions being ratified there, with discussions informed by the University representatives present.

I would like to thank the many colleagues involved in the Strategic Review, the preparation of the draft terms of reference, and the various consultation exercises.

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

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, admission to higher education is currently attracting some attention. The Higher Education Policy Institute has published *One Step Beyond*.<sup>1</sup> During its Annual Conference on 12 June, UCAS' Chief Executive will discuss 'The outlook for HE admissions in 2025' and Nick Hillman, HEPI Director, will lead an 'In Conversation' session on the subject with Susan Lapworth, Chief Executive of the Office for Students.<sup>2</sup> It is to be hoped that the special features of Cambridge admissions will get a mention there. The University shares the recognised national concerns but has concerns of its own concerning the role of its Colleges.

The Colleges are central to admission to Cambridge. Undergraduates are admitted by the Colleges, and graduate students directly admitted by a Faculty or Department must also choose a College. Applicants who have 'received or become qualified to receive a degree from another institution of higher education'<sup>3</sup> may also be admitted, as Affiliated Students, by Hughes Hall, Lucy Cavendish, St Edmund's and Wolfson Colleges. The Colleges then present these student members to the University at matriculation and bring them to it to be admitted to their degrees.<sup>4</sup>

This Report addresses a fundamental question. How can the Colleges work together over admissions, and if they can, should they? The existing Colleges' Committee<sup>5</sup> and its Standing Committee<sup>6</sup> have their roles in helping Colleges to act together, but are recognised only in passing in the University's *Statutes and Ordinances*. Proposals about a cooperative role for Colleges as independent corporations governed under their own Statutes have been carefully balanced in this Report's proposals. It is proposed that applications of individual candidates for admission should continue to be considered by Colleges, which are to determine their methods of assessment and set any conditions attached to the offers they make. Nor will the revised Undergraduate Admissions Committee be allowed to exercise 'authority over which courses are offered at particular Colleges'.

The proposed revised Committee is not to have any 'automatic power to make decisions binding on – or to represent the views of – the Colleges collectively, unless it is explicitly asked to do so with the agreement of all Colleges, or implicitly may do so as a result of a decision made with the agreement of all Colleges'. Colleges may act collectively to determine intercollegiate policy or strategy, and may choose to cooperate on operational matters. This is expected to be looked for only in limited circumstances which 'will relate to responding to clear legal, statutory or regulatory requirements set by government, a government agency or a course accreditation body'.



Importantly the Office for Students is not such an ‘agency’ but ‘a non-departmental public body’. Nevertheless it is the Regulator and its first Condition for the Registration of a ‘provider of higher education’ is that it must have an ‘access and participation plan’ designed to encourage applications for admission with regard for equality, diversity and inclusion.

Cambridge duly has one, intended to serve the purpose until 2029.<sup>7</sup> It begins with the promise that the University ‘will address barriers to equality of opportunity across the undergraduate student lifecycle, encompassing admissions, on-course experiences and progression to further study or employment’. What is the scope of the ‘equality’ to be protected? This is a matter recently touched on by the Vice-Chancellor. ‘In 2022 nearly half of our undergraduate students came from those areas, while just 7.7% of applications came from the north-west’, she noted. She wanted the University to ‘serve the UK as a whole’. The BBC drew attention to her remarks on 26 February.

Any North–South divide in applications tends to be associated with the confidence of schools in encouraging their able pupils to apply and prepare them to engage with the process.<sup>8</sup> Having been an Admissions Tutor for a College I well remember the difficulty of balancing distinctions among candidates in that regard. If Colleges are to be encouraged to take into account anything other than the merits of the candidate or the specific needs of a College, that surely needs further consideration by the Regent House.

‘Admission’ also includes admission to a degree. This seems a convenient opportunity to draw attention to a difficulty Oxford has been addressing which Cambridge shares. A Supplement to the *Oxford Gazette* of 8 May published a recent debate of Congregation with the result of a vote.<sup>9</sup> Concerns had been raised that the current wording for presenting candidates uses the two grammatical genders Latin allows. The change proposed was to remove reference to ‘conspicuously gendered terms’ and replace it with the phrase *hic adstantem* to identify the ‘scholar’ being presented for the degree. Cambridge’s Latin faces a similar challenge in the presentation of *virii mulieresque* at a degree ceremony. The Praelector presenting the graduand holds the candidate by his or her right hand to present *hunc virum* or *hanc mulierem*. Perhaps it is timely for that wording to be reconsidered in the interests of meeting contemporary expectations?

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hepi.ac.uk/2025/02/13/one-step-beyond-how-the-school-and-college-curriculum-in-england-can-prepare-people-for-higher-education/>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hepi.ac.uk/2024/09/05/hepi-annual-conference-thursday-12-june-2025/>.

<sup>3</sup> *Statutes and Ordinances*, pp. 162–7.

<sup>4</sup> See Statute B 13 and *Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 1117.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ois.cam.ac.uk/committees/colleges-committee>.

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.ois.cam.ac.uk/files/cc-csc\\_tor\\_-\\_approved\\_2024-06-11.pdf](https://www.ois.cam.ac.uk/files/cc-csc_tor_-_approved_2024-06-11.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/files/publications/university\\_of\\_cambridge\\_app\\_2025\\_29.pdf](https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/files/publications/university_of_cambridge_app_2025_29.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/interview-preparation>.

<sup>9</sup> [https://gazette.web.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/gazette/documents/media/meeting\\_of\\_congregation\\_-\\_conduct\\_of\\_ceremonies\\_in\\_congregation\\_and\\_certain\\_other\\_ceremonies\\_-\\_1\\_to\\_no\\_5455.pdf](https://gazette.web.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/gazette/documents/media/meeting_of_congregation_-_conduct_of_ceremonies_in_congregation_and_certain_other_ceremonies_-_1_to_no_5455.pdf).

## ***Report of the Council, dated 28 April 2025, on the disposal of the Mill Lane North site to King’s College***

(*Reporter*, 6781, 2024–25, p. 538).

Professor S. SRINIVASAN (Department of Politics and International Studies and King’s College):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the proposal to purchase the Mill Lane North site has strong support within King’s from across the Fellowship, and links to our core aspirations as a College committed to widening participation and to building an integrated academic community. As anyone who walks through King’s will be well aware, the main College site allows very little space for an expanded estate. Mill Lane North is thus a hugely attractive space for King’s to develop. Our plans for the site are predominantly focused on undergraduate (and to a lesser extent postgraduate) accommodation, as well as the need to create additional space dedicated to teaching and research. The College is eager to protect this site for the benefit of the collegiate University and the wider Cambridge community. It is very much the intention to retain and indeed develop some publicly accessible spaces within the site, whilst also ensuring a safe and productive environment for our students. Development of the site will take a number of years, and the College will do its utmost to be a considerate neighbour, particularly to the adjacent Pembroke development and to the other nearby Colleges as it pursues the project.

Mr J. J. HUMBLE (Peterhouse):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Report states that the proposed disposal will involve the ‘relocation of the current occupants’. If I understand correctly this would presumably entail the termination of leases or licences of non-University occupants of parts of the site, including at least three popular and well-used businesses, namely The Anchor pub, S&G Cycles, and Café Aristo. I for one would be sorry to see the Regent House authorising the expulsion of these facilities. In particular, I wonder how the wilful expulsion of one of the last centrally-located bicycle shops in Cambridge would fit into the University’s commitment to green travel.

Mr B. B. KNIGHT (Christ’s College), read by the Proctors:

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I am speaking today to raise three questions around the proposed disposal of the Mill Lane North site to King’s College.

First, it would be helpful to clarify how relocations will occur. The most recent comparable disposal may be that of the set of buildings adjoining Mill Lane South, where the Notice on the disposal (*Reporter*, 6640, 2021–22, p. 161) assured the University that the Programme Board for Education Space had seen and agreed alternative arrangements for all teaching and that the University Centre could absorb the demand on 12 Mill Lane. In this instance, by contrast, we are advised that the relocation will form ‘a strategic academic priority’; however, it is still to be planned by a Programme Board.

This brings me to my second concern: where this project fits into Reshaping our Estate. Reshaping our Estate has promised a 20-year financial capital plan and a strategic estates framework.<sup>1</sup> However, neither of these are yet available. As a result, it is opaque to the University how this disposal fits into a broader rethinking of our estate and it is difficult to assess whether the trade-off in future opportunities best facilitates our long-term aims.

Finally, recent pressures on teaching space in the city centre have been influencing the construction of the timetable in ways that many students are dissatisfied by. At the same time, the Teaching Review, recently approved by the General Board, wishes to move the University towards a bounded teaching day and urges departments to create “buffer” areas in all timetables.<sup>2</sup> However, the disposal of a central site limits our options to realise this, and, without more information from the Reshaping our Estate programme at this stage, the path towards this vision remains unclear.

None of this is to say that the disposal is not appropriate, nor to contest that the alternatives would be very costly, but I do hope that the Council can provide more information, to explain its reasoning, before a Grace is submitted to the Regent House.

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.em.admin.cam.ac.uk/reshaping-our-estate>.

<sup>2</sup> See the Teaching Review’s Final Recommendations at <https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/cam-only/reporter/2024-25/weekly/6781/TeachingReviewFinal2025.pdf#page=2> and on the Teaching Review website (University account required).

Dr G. R. TETT (Provost of King’s College), read by the Proctors:

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, King’s is excited by the prospect of renewing the Mill Lane North site and is delighted to be working collaboratively with the University on its acquisition. We are committed to ensuring that Mill Lane North remains a vibrant part of collegiate Cambridge far into the future. King’s proposed purchase of the site presents a wonderful opportunity for the College to provide student-centred facilities in a location very close to its main site. We appreciate the excellent adjacent development recently completed by Pembroke, and King’s envisages creating similarly attractive new spaces and significantly improving the built environment around Silver Street and Mill Lane.

## COLLEGE NOTICES

### Elections

#### Newnham College

Elected to an Honorary Fellowship with effect from 7 February 2025:

The Rt Hon Diane Abbott, MP, M.A., N

### Vacancies

*Darwin College:* Darwin College Research Associates 2025 (several posts available); tenure: three years from 1 October 2025; non-stipendiary but collegiate benefits apply; closing date: 8 June 2025 at 5 p.m.; further details: <https://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/vacancies/#darwin-college-research-associates-2025>

### Memorial Service

#### Dr Doris Joan Thoday

A celebration of the life of Dr Doris Joan Thoday, former Vice-President of Lucy Cavendish College (*Reporter*, 6775, 2024–25, p. 413), will be held at Lucy Cavendish College on **Friday, 27 June 2025 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.** All who remember Joan are warmly invited. Please see the College website for further details and booking: <https://www.lucy.cam.ac.uk/celebration-life>

## SOCIETIES, ETC.

### Society for the History of the University

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 5 June 2025 at 5.30 p.m. in the John Bradfield Room, Darwin College. Mr Tony Watts will give a paper entitled ‘Town vs gown: A history of cricket in Cambridge’. The meeting will begin with the AGM. Refreshments will be served from 5 p.m.

## EXTERNAL NOTICES

### Oxford Notices

*Jesus College:* Non-Stipendiary Junior Research Fellowship in Engineering; tenure: three years from 1 October 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter; closing date: 16 June 2025 at 12 noon; further details: <https://www.jesus.ox.ac.uk/about-jesus-college/our-community/vacancies/non-stipendiary-junior-research-fellowship-in-engineering/>

*St Hilda’s College:* Stipendiary Lectureship in Applied Mathematics (3 hours); tenure: one year from 1 October 2025, with the possibility of renewal; salary: £8,284–£8,746; closing date: 11 June 2025 at 12 noon; further details: <https://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/vacancies/stipendiary-lecturer-applied-mathematics>

© 2025 The Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Cambridge.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission in writing of the University of Cambridge, or as expressly permitted by law.

The University is the owner or the licensee of all intellectual property rights in the site and in the material published on it. Those works are protected by copyright laws and treaties around the world. All such rights are reserved.

Material prepared for the primary purpose of providing information about the University of Cambridge, its teaching and research activities, its subsidiary companies and organisations with which it is associated or affiliated has been placed on the site by the University (‘University Material’).

Subject to statutory allowances, extracts of University Material may be accessed, downloaded, and printed for your personal and non-commercial use and you may draw the attention of others within your organization to University Material posted on the site.