

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REPORTER

No 6832

WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 2026

VOL CLVI No 37

CONTENTS

Notices

Calendar	609
Discussion on Tuesday, 14 July 2026	609
Election to the Council in class (a)	609
Topic of concern to the University (pause of UIS reorganisation): Notice in response to Discussion remarks	610
Report of the Council recommending the budget and allocations from the Chest for 2026–27: Notice in response to Discussion remarks	610
The Old Cavendish Laboratory, Free School Lane	611
Dates of Discussions, 2026–27	611

Vacancies, appointments, etc.

Electors to the Betty Wu Lee Professorship of Women and the Arts of China before 1900	611
--	-----

Notices by the General Board

Future of the veterinary medicine course at Cambridge	612
Formalising outcomes from the first-year assessment of students on doctoral programmes	612
Honorary Professors	613

Regulations for examinations

Architecture (Degree Apprenticeship) for the M.St. Degree (Revised Regulations): Correction	614
--	-----

Class-lists, etc.

Approved for degrees	615
----------------------	-----

Graces

Graces submitted to the Regent House on 8 July 2026	617
--	-----

Acta

Approval of Graces submitted to the Regent House on 24 June 2026	617
Congregation of the Regent House (General Admission to Degrees)	
Wednesday, 1 July 2026	618
Thursday, 2 July 2026	622
Friday, 3 July 2026	627
Saturday, 4 July 2026	632

End of the Official Part of the 'Reporter'

Report of Discussion: 30 June 2026

Report of the General Board on the outcomes of the Academic Career Pathways (Research and Teaching) and (Teaching and Scholarship) 2025–26 exercises	638
---	-----



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

NOTICES

Calendar

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

23 July, *Thursday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

24 July, *Friday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

25 July, *Saturday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 10 a.m.

29 July, *Wednesday*. Last ordinary issue of the *Reporter* in the 2025–26 academic year.

Discussion on Tuesday, 14 July 2026

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*, 2024, p. 111) to attend a Discussion **by videoconference** on Tuesday, 14 July 2026 at 2 p.m. The following items will be discussed:

1. Report of the Council, dated 23 June 2026, pursuant to Special Ordinance A (ii) 7 (divestment from fossil fuel and arms companies) (*Reporter*, 6830, 2025–26, p. 572).
2. Report of the Council, dated 30 June 2026, on changes to the senior administrative offices (*Reporter*, 6831, 2025–26, p. 583).
3. Report of the Council, dated 30 June 2026, on the removal of references to the University Chest in Ordinances (*Reporter*, 6831, 2025–26, p. 587).

Those wishing to join the Discussion by videoconference should email Discussions@admin.cam.ac.uk 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 Discussions@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 Director of Governance and Compliance, 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.

For general information on Discussions see the *Reporter* website at <https://www.reporter.admin.cam.ac.uk/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/.

Election to the Council in class (a)

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that there will be an election to appoint one member of the University Council in class (a) (Heads of Colleges) under Statute A IV 2, following Ms Hancock's decision to step down from 20 July 2026. The person elected will serve with immediate effect until 31 December 2026, the remainder of Ms Hancock's period of appointment.

For information about the Council, the reasons for standing for election, and the duties and responsibilities of members, please see the Council's Notice published on 2 October 2024 (*Reporter*, 6753, 2024–25, p. 26).

Please could candidates send their nominations by email including electronic signatures to registrary@admin.cam.ac.uk by **12 noon on Tuesday, 21 July 2026**. The nomination (which can be made on a form available online)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 Tuesday, 21 July 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 in the *Reporter* on Wednesday, 22 July 2026.

If the election is contested, a timetable for the election will be announced.

¹ See <https://universityofcambridgecloud.sharepoint.com/sites/RegentHouse/Shared Documents/CouncilNominationFormET2026.pdf>.

Topic of concern to the University (pause of UIS reorganisation): Notice in response to Discussion remarks

2 July 2026

The Council has received the remarks made at the Discussion on 2 June 2026 on the above Topic of concern to the University (*Reporter*, 2025–26: 6825, p. 475; 6829, p. 541). It has replied to the remarks related to the proposals for changes to senior administrative offices separately (*Reporter*, 6831, 2025–26, p. 581). This response concerns the remaining points raised in those remarks, including those relating to the creation and sequencing of a University digital strategy, and the initiation of a formal organisational change process in University Information Services (UIS) earlier this term.

The strongest area of consensus among those who contributed to the Discussion is on the need for change in the approach to the provision of digital services, with references to fragmentation, poor user experience, insufficient digital maturity, and growing cyber-security challenges. Some commentators, including Professor Blackwell, Mr King and Dr Rutter, recall the past, noting previous technical innovations and discerning an unwelcome shift towards standardisation and a decline in academic engagement with UIS. However, a larger group – including Dr Gardner, Mr Parsons, Ms Phillips, Professor Philpott and Professor Russell – see positive signs of academic user engagement in the year since Mr Hill has taken up office as the new Director of UIS, with some singling out the consultative approach that Mr Hill has adopted to gather views from across the University.

A second major area of agreement is on the urgent need for a coherent, University-wide digital strategy, to bring institutional priorities, resources and delivery capability into alignment. The principal point of difference is in the sequencing of events. Professor Dennis, Professor Penty, Mr Chris Russell, Dr Roberson and others note that the absence of a strategy has contributed to fragmentation, duplication and inefficiencies. Others, including Mr Beckles, Ms Blair, Mr Haynes and Ms Langley, suggest that proposals for restructuring should wait until the strategy has been defined.

Some contributors, including Professor Brandt and Ms Egan, question whether it is appropriate to increase the number of senior roles whilst reducing front-line services. Mr Hey, Ms Phillips, Ms Traub and others note that the proposals under discussion affect a relatively small number of existing staff, including 18 roles that are at risk of redundancy primarily owing to reduced demand, and support the rebalancing of capability and strengthening of accountability. Several contributors, including Professor Dennis, Mr Hill, Professor Philpott and Mr Parsons, note the significant increase in the UIS operating costs budget and headcount in the last five years, and the need to make a 5% contribution towards the professional services savings target, suggesting a need for more immediate action. Others, including Ms Allan, Mr Downie, Ms Livingstone and Professor Simons, see restructuring as an enabler for the development of strategy, by creating the leadership capacity to support decision-making. The Council agrees with Mr Chambers that, whilst every redundancy is significant to the person who holds that role, these are modest changes. It notes Mr Hill's comment that UIS needs to make changes to its staff structure now, so that it has the right skills and capabilities to assist with the digital strategy development process. It agrees with Professor Dennis that the longer we wait to develop a digital strategy, the further we are likely to fall behind in developing the University's digital maturity and capabilities.

Dr Hosking quotes from the University's Accessibility Statement on the main website, which lists known accessibility issues, and observes that the University has failed to meet its own deadline for fixing them. The Council agrees that there remains work to be done across the University's 2,000+ sites, but it disagrees that the delay is caused by resourcing within UIS. UIS has already provided the Cambridge Web Platform that enables websites to be accessible by default, but it relies on those managing websites to *opt* to use it. Over 200 websites are already using the platform and a further 300 are expected to join them by the end of 2026.

The Council notes the remarks on the consultation with staff affected by the UIS reorganisation, and on the use of fixed-term contracts in UIS and the process relating to their expiry. As those processes are ongoing, the Council does not consider it to be appropriate to comment at this time.

Report of the Council recommending the budget and allocations from the Chest for 2026–27: Notice in response to Discussion remarks

2 July 2026

The Council has received the remarks made at the Discussion on 16 June 2026 concerning the above Report (*Reporter*, 2025–26: 6827, p. 510; 6830, p. 576).

Dr Jones reiterates his concern about trends in non-academic staff growth in previous years. As Dr Jones acknowledged in his remarks in an earlier Discussion, professional services staff – inside and outside the UAS – are an essential enabler of education and research in the University. The requirement to reduce operating expenditure has exerted control over the recruitment of staff in the central professional services; the Resource Management Committee is satisfied that the actions being taken to achieve this by each of the UAS Divisions are without significant detriment to their core, enabling functions, but – as indicated in the Report – has accepted that further, material reductions in expenditure are unlikely to be sustainable within the current structure and organisation. The Council's commitment to review and redesign the University's operating model for professional services – a process which can be neither rapid nor straightforward – is reflected in its decision to seek a Secondment Fellow to support this work, alongside an external specialist and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Resources and Operations; and in the proposed changes to the University's senior administrative offices, in particular the proposed appointment of a Chief Operating Officer.

The Council notes Dr Astle's remarks explaining his decision not to sign this Report.

The Council is submitting a Grace (Grace 1, p. 617) for the approval of the recommendations of this Report.

The Old Cavendish Laboratory, Free School Lane

2 July 2026

The following Notice is published to advise the University of works which are not considered to be a ‘substantial alteration’ within the meaning of Statute F II 3 and therefore do not require a Report but are nevertheless of interest or consequence to members of the Regent House (see *Reporter*, 6259, 2011–12, p. 498).

A Report recommending the disposal of the freehold of the Mill Lane North site to King’s College was published on 30 April 2025. The recommendations of that Report were approved by Grace 2 of 29 May 2025. The Report noted that the usual procedures will be followed for determining whether to notify, or seek approval from, the Regent House regarding any building works required as part of the programme to relocate current occupants of the Mill Lane North site by the end of July 2027.

The Mill Lane North Programme Board has endorsed a proposal to relocate the Office of the School of the Physical Sciences from 17 Mill Lane to the second floor of the Old Cavendish Laboratory (East Wing), Free School Lane. An external staircase which previously provided a secondary means of escape from this part of the building was removed as part of an earlier project to create the Student Services Centre. A new internal staircase, to reinstate that secondary means of escape, will be provided as part of the current project. Some vacant space on the first floor of the East Wing will also be refurbished and will be allocated in due course by the Estates Committee’s Space Management Sub-committee.

The total estimated cost is approximately £1.6m. The work is scheduled to commence in July 2026 and conclude in December 2026. Planning permission and listed building consent from Cambridge City Council were achieved in April 2026.

Dates of Discussions, 2026–27

The Council has agreed that Discussions will take place at 2 p.m. on the following Tuesdays in the 2026–27 academic year:

<i>Michaelmas Term 2026</i>	<i>Lent Term 2027</i>	<i>Easter Term and Long Vacation 2027</i>
6 October	19 January	27 April
10 November	16 February	11 May
15 December	16 March	1 June
		15 June
		29 June
		13 July

VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

Electors to the Betty Wu Lee Professorship of Women and the Arts of China before 1900

The Council has appointed members of the *ad hoc* Board of Electors to the Betty Wu Lee Professorship of Women and the Arts of China before 1900 as follows:

Professor Richard Gilbertson, *CAI*, in the Chair, as the Vice-Chancellor’s deputy

(a) *on the nomination of the Council:*

Professor Caroline Vout, *CHR*

Professor Ladan Akbarnia

(b) *on the nomination of the General Board:*

Professor Roel Sterckx, *CL*

Professor Amy Tobin, *N*

Professor Stephen Whiteman, *Courtauld Institute of Art*

(c) *on the nomination of the Faculty Board of Architecture and History of Art:*

Professor Alexander Marr, *TH*

Professor Jocelyn Wyburd, *CL*

Professor J. P. Park, *University of Oxford*

NOTICES BY THE GENERAL BOARD

Future of the veterinary medicine course at Cambridge

In February 2026, the General Board agreed to publish the analysis conducted by the School of the Biological Sciences and the Department of Veterinary Medicine, which the Board had considered prior to making a decision to continue to admit students to the Vet.M.B. course (*Reporter*, 2025–26: 6816, p. 355; 6817, p. 362). The analysis is now available at: <https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/cam-only/reporter/documents/vet/vet-med-course-gbpapers-2026.pdf> (University account required). The General Board has set up a Vet School Change and Oversight Board to support its work in reviewing the academic and financial plans prepared by the Department. An update on progress to date is available at: <https://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/cam-only/reporter/documents/vet/VSCOB-Report-July-2026.pdf> (University account required).

Formalising outcomes from the first-year assessment of students on doctoral programmes

With effect from 1 October 2026

The General Board has agreed to formalise award of the Certificate of Postgraduate Study (CPGS) as a possible outcome of a first-year assessment for a doctoral degree. The changes to the General Board Regulations below will allow the award of a Certificate of Postgraduate Study as an outcome of a first-year assessment as well as provided by the Special Regulations for the Certificate. The General Board has agreed other changes to the Regulations to (i) remove duplication with the General Regulations for Certain Postgraduate Degrees; (ii) to align with current administrative arrangements; (iii) and to remove reference to terms, to align with ongoing work in this area.

In the General Board Regulations for the Certificates of Postgraduate Study (*Statutes and Ordinances*, 2024, p. 578) by making the following revisions:

(a) Revising Regulation 2 to read as follows:

2. The full-time course of instruction for the Certificate shall normally extend over twelve consecutive months and the part-time course of instruction shall normally extend over twenty-four consecutive months, which can for some Degree Committees constitute the initial period of registration for a doctoral degree. The General Board, on the recommendation of the Degree Committee concerned, may agree that, for some specified courses, the full-time course of instruction may extend beyond twelve months. The General Board may also permit a candidate in exceptional circumstances to spend up to twenty-four months from the date of commencement of candidature in study for the Certificate.

(b) Revising Regulation 3 to read as follows:

3. Where a Certificate is offered as a stand-alone course or as the first year of a doctoral programme, a candidate for the Certificate must have been granted admission as a postgraduate student, on the recommendation of the Degree Committee concerned, by the General Board, who shall assign a date of commencement of candidature.

(c) Inserting a new Regulation 4, and renumbering all subsequent regulations, to read as follows:

4. A Degree Committee may award a Certificate to a candidate registered on a doctoral course as an outcome of a mandatory registration assessment.

(d) Removing Regulations 6 and 7 (now Regulations 7 and 8) and renumbering all subsequent regulations.

(e) Revising Regulation 8 (now Regulation 7) to read as follows:

7. Each candidate shall submit two copies of their dissertation, in accordance with detailed arrangements specified by the Degree Committee, so as to arrive by a date which shall be determined by the Degree Committee, and which shall be not later than the last day of the student's period of registration unless the General Board, on the recommendation of the Degree Committee, have allowed an extension of time under Regulation 2. Each candidate shall state generally in a preface to the dissertation and specifically in notes the sources from which information has been derived.

(f) Inserting a new Regulation 11 after Regulation 11 (now Regulation 10) and renumbering all subsequent regulations, to read as follows:

11. A Degree Committee may award a Certificate to a student as an outcome of a probationary assessment for a doctoral degree. Where a Degree Committee makes such an award:

- (a) the materials submitted for the probationary assessment shall fulfil the requirement of Regulations 5 and 6;
- (b) the probationary assessment oral examination shall fulfil the requirement of Regulation 9; and
- (c) the Assessors of the probationary assessment shall be appointed as Examiners for the purposes of Regulations 8 and 9.

(g) Revising Regulation 12 to read as follows:

12. No postgraduate student shall be entitled to receive the Certificate so long as they remain a registered student, nor subsequently if they should submit a thesis for the degree of Ph.D., Eng.D., M.Sc., or M.Litt. Nothing in this regulation shall prevent a person who has been awarded the Certificate, and whose registration has been withdrawn, from being reinstated as a candidate for the degree of Ph.D., Eng.D., M.Sc., or M.Litt., and, if the General Board think fit, from being granted leave to count the whole or some part of the period of candidature for the Certificate towards a course of research for one of the aforementioned degrees. No candidate shall be entitled to receive the Certificate unless they have attended the prescribed course of instruction.

Honorary Professors

The following lists of individuals holding the titles of Honorary Professor and Emeritus Honorary Professor are published for the information of the University.

HONORARY PROFESSORS

African Evolutionary Ecology: Claire Spottiswoode, *M*, 30 September 2030
Applied Pharmacology: Sir Menelaos Pangalos, *CLH*, 30 September 2027
Biochemistry: Ben Lehner, 30 September 2028
Bioinformatics: Ewan Birney, 30 September 2029
Cancer Genomics: Peter Campbell, 30 September 2029
Communications: Ian White, *JE*, 30 September 2027
Early Modern History: Clare Jackson, *TH*, 30 September 2028
Early Modern Italian Literature and Culture: Virginia Cox, *T*, 30 September 2026
Evolutionary Malacology: Elizabeth Harper, *CAI*, 30 September 2029
Experimental Cardiology: Andrew Grace, 30 September 2027
Experimental Medicine: John Bradley, *TH*, 30 September 2027
Genomics and Computational Biology: Paul Flicek, 30 September 2027
Historical Geography and Intellectual History: Robert Mayhew, *PEM*, 30 September 2029
History of Science: Sachiko Kusukawa, *T*, 30 September 2030
Human Genetics and Genomics: Matthew Hurles, 30 September 2028
Microbial Genomics: Stephen Bentley, 30 September 2027
Molecular Neuroscience: Giovanna Mallucci, *CHU*, 30 September 2029
Politics: David Runciman, 30 September 2029
Russian and Soviet Culture: Catriona Kelly, *T*, 30 September 2026
Silk Roads Studies: Peter Frankopan, *K*, 30 September 2027
Stem Cell Biology: Robin Franklin, *PEM*, 30 September 2028
Structural and Molecular Biology: Lori Passmore, *CLH*, 30 September 2030
Structural and Molecular Microbiology: Jan Löwe, *DAR*, 30 September 2028
Translational Gastroenterology: Miles Parkes, 30 September 2030

EMERITUS HONORARY PROFESSORS

Agricultural Botany: Tina Barsby, *ED**Biomolecular Sciences and Informatics*: Dame Janet Thornton, *CHU**Circadian Neurobiology*: Michael Hastings*Clinical Genomics*: Helen Firth*Conservation Science*: Rhys Green*Epigenetics*: Wolf Reik*Ethical and Political Philosophy*: Onora O'Neill, *N**Experimental Molecular Neurology*: Michel Goedert*French Literature*: Alison Finch, *CHU**Genomic Sciences*: Sir Michael Stratton*Historical Bibliography*: David McKitterick, *T**History and Economics*: Emma Rothschild, *M**History of Art*: Nigel Morgan*History of East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine*: Christopher Cullen, *DAR**International Management*: Peter Williamson, *JE**Language and Cognition*: William Marslen-Wilson, *W**Latin Literature*: Philip Hardie, *T**Machine Intelligence*: Andrew Blake, *CLH**Medieval European History*: Elisabeth van Houts, *EM**Medieval Philosophy*: John Marenbon, *T**Molecular Bioenergetics*: Sir John Walker, *SID**Molecular Biology*: Sir Hugh Pelham, *CHR**Music*: Susan Rutherford, *JE**Nineteenth-Century French Literature*: Robert Lethbridge, *F**Penal Theory and Penal Law*: Andreas Von Hirsch, *W**Poetry*: Angela Leighton, *T**Pure Mathematics*: Béla Bollobás, *T**Social and Economic Geography*: Susan Smith, *G**Structural Biology*: Sir Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, *T**Theoretical Physics*: David Khmel'nitskii, *T**Theoretical Physics*: Christopher Pope*Theoretical Seismology*: Christopher Chapman

REGULATIONS FOR EXAMINATIONS

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

Further to the Notice published on 25 March 2026 (*Reporter*, 6820, 2025–26, p. 403), 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, gives notice of a correction to the date from which the amendment is to take effect (corrections in italics):

With effect from 1 September 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 September 2025*.

CLASS-LISTS, ETC.**Approved for degrees**

The relevant Degree Committees have approved the following persons for the award of degrees. In the case of degrees where theses are required to be deposited in the University Library, the title of the thesis is shown after the name of the person by whom it was submitted. These lists do not include candidates who opted to withhold their names from publication.

This content and page 616 have been removed as they contain personal information.

GRACES

Graces submitted to the Regent House on 8 July 2026

The Council submits the following Graces to the Regent House. 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, 17 July 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 recommendations in paragraph 26 of the Report of the Council, dated 3 June 2026, recommending the budget and allocations from the Chest for 2026–27 (*Reporter*, 6827, 2025–26, p. 510) be approved.¹
2. That a Hatton Professorship of Sustainability Fund be established in the University, to be governed by the following regulations:²

HATTON PROFESSORSHIP OF SUSTAINABILITY FUND

1. The funds received from Trinity College, together with such other sums as may be received or applied for the same purpose, shall form an endowment fund called the Hatton Professorship of Sustainability Fund to advance research in the field of sustainability by supporting a Hatton Professorship of Sustainability.
2. The Managers shall be responsible for the administration of the Fund and the application of its income and shall comprise a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Head of a School and a member of the Council of Trinity College on the nomination of the Council of Trinity College, one of whom shall be Chair, appointed by the General Board for such period as the General Board shall determine.
3. Subject to Regulation 4, the income of the Fund shall be applied towards the payment of the stipend, national insurance, pension contributions, and associated indirect costs of the Professorship payable by the University.
4. Any unexpended income in any financial year, including income accrued during a vacancy in the Professorship, may, at the discretion of the Managers:
 - (a) be applied to support the work of the Professor;
 - (b) with the approval of the General Board, be applied to support research in the field of sustainability in the University in such manner as may be recommended by the Managers; and/or
 - (c) be carried forward for use as income in accordance with Regulation 3 in any one or more subsequent financial years.

¹ See the Council's Notice, p. 610.

² See the Vice-Chancellor's Notice, *Reporter*, 6830, 2025–26, p. 571.

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

ACTA

Approval of Graces submitted to the Regent House on 24 June 2026

The Graces submitted to the Regent House on 24 June 2026 (*Reporter*, 6830, 2025–26, p. 575) were approved at 4 p.m. on Friday, 3 July 2026.

Congregation of the Regent House on Wednesday, 1 July 2026

A Congregation was held at 10 a.m. in the Senate-House. The following degrees were conferred:

This content and pages 619-621 have been removed as they contain personal information.

This content has been removed as it contains personal information.

Congregation of the Regent House on Thursday, 2 July 2026

A Congregation was held at 10 a.m. in the Senate-House. The following degrees were conferred:

This content and pages 623-626 have been removed as they contain personal information.

This content has been removed as it contains personal information.

Congregation of the Regent House on Friday, 3 July 2026

A Congregation was held at 10 a.m. in the Senate-House. The following degrees were conferred:

This content and pages 628-631 have been removed as they contain personal information.

This content has been removed as it contains personal information.

Congregation of the Regent House on Saturday, 4 July 2026

A Congregation was held at 10 a.m. in the Senate-House. The following degrees were conferred:

This content and pages 633-636 have been removed as they contain personal information.

This content has been removed as it contains personal information.

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

END OF THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE 'REPORTER'

REPORT OF DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 30 June 2026

A Discussion was scheduled by videoconference with Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Graham Virgo, *DOW*, presiding and the deputy for the Director of Governance and Compliance, the Junior Proctor and the Junior Pro-Proctor as the attending officers.

Remarks were received as follows:

Report of the General Board, dated 10 June 2026, on the outcomes of the Academic Career Pathways (Research and Teaching) and (Teaching and Scholarship) 2025–26 exercises

(*Reporter*, 6828, 2025–26, p. 524).

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

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, it is perhaps worth noting that paragraph 2 of this Report includes the assurance that an approved procedure has been followed by the General Board. That has been customary since the controversy of a quarter of a century ago added it as a requirement.

Memories of those currently seeking promotion may not stretch back so far so perhaps it may be helpful to be the story on the record again now.

Previously the list of proposed promotions to personal professorships was published without explanation of the way it had been arrived at. Following consultation, a Notice of the General Board (*Reporter*, 5723, 1997–98, p. 246) set out in an Appendix the responses received, and described its own proposals. A Discussion followed on 20 January 1998 (*Reporter*, 5726, 1997–98, p. 340).

There were objections. A Notice was published on 2 March promising that when the Council and General Board had considered the costs, detailed proposals would be brought forward for the Regent House to consider.

In April a Report of the Council was published, unusually making mention of me as a named individual. I cannot therefore claim to have no responsibility for helping towards the development of the current arrangements, though I certainly made myself a nuisance, for which I apologise.

This Report announced that the General Board intended to report on the establishment of an office of Senior Lecturer as well as ‘several related issues concerning the structure of academic offices’. Meanwhile 76 members of the Regent House submitted a Grace proposing the establishment of a Syndicate – a rarely used constitutional possibility – to consider ‘the structure of academic offices and promotions procedures’.

This was published with a Memorandum submitted by Sir Brian Neill acting as the University’s Commissary. Review of the office of Commissary followed after two Reports, in the *Reporter* of 19 January 2000 (*Reporter*, 5797, 1999–00, p. 348) followed by a Discussion in February 2000 (*Reporter*, 5801, 1999–2000, p. 448), with the second Report published on 16 May 2001 (*Reporter*, 5846, 2000–01, p. 696).

There is therefore quite a history of controversy behind the emergence of the current arrangements.

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

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I should declare that I am a member of the Council, but I am not making these remarks on its behalf.

Congratulations to those who have been recommended for promotion.

Sharp-eyed readers of the Report may have noticed that the recommendation proposing the establishment of the four Clinical Professorships (Recommendation II of paragraph 8) has been reformulated. This year, unlike in previous years, the recommendation qualifies the duration of the establishment of each office ‘for the duration of [the office holder’s] Honorary Consultant contract’.

Does the new wording reflect an acknowledgement that, if the University is to establish these offices for a fixed term without contravening Special Ordinance C (ii) 12, the Regent House must approve the fixed-term nature of the offices by Grace, notwithstanding the provisions of Regulation 1(e) of the General Regulations for University Officers? If it does, then presumably an academic holding a so-called ‘co-terminous’ fixed-term contract who entered office through a promotions Report is employed on a permanent basis and is entitled to hold office until the retiring age, even if a co-terminous contractual condition is triggered. In the Discussion on the Annual Report of the General Board to the Council in January, I suggested reasons why even a Grace making an appointment fixed-term may not suffice as a method to avoid the tenure protection provided for by Special Ordinance C (ii) 12.¹ The Notice in response to that Discussion is yet to be published.

Since 1 October 2019, newly appointed clinical academics have been issued with fixed-term contracts that are co-terminous with an honorary clinical contract with an NHS body. Previously, the Council has argued that the reason for requiring co-terminous contracts for academics who are clinically qualified is that ‘without an honorary clinical contract, those officeholders cannot work as clinical academics at the University’.² But the reasons why a University academic may need to hold an honorary NHS contract are presumably (i) to be paid on the NHS pay-spine, and (ii) to perform clinical work in the NHS. (i) is dealt with by Regulation 6 of the Ordinance on Payments Additional to Stipend and (ii) will be a requirement of any NHS body for which the academic might perform clinical duties. Therefore, can the Council explain why legally dubious co-terminous contracts that compromise the usual tenure provisions of the Statutes and Ordinances and are inconsistent with the *Memorandum of understanding on joint staff of universities and NHS organisations*, should be necessary?³ How can any claim of necessity be consistent with the acceptance, implicit in the new wording of Recommendation II, that the Clinical Professors promoted in previous years are not, in fact, co-terminously employed? Presumably those Professors are mostly still working happily enough for the University as clinical academics.

¹ *Reporter*, 6813, 2025–26, p. 321.

² *Reporter*, 6749, 2023–24, p. 779.

³ Part 7.1.2 of the Memorandum of Understanding states that ‘dismissal by one employer does not automatically result in dismissal by the other’. Available at <https://www.nhsemployers.org/articles/guidance-employing-clinical-academics>.