



Further Particulars for Reuben College Governing Body and Research Fellowships in Public Engagement with Research, Culture & Heritage

8 July 2026

Reuben College is seeking to appoint one Official (Governing Body) Fellow and two Research (Early Career) Fellows to support its Strategic area of Public Engagement with Research, Culture and Heritage (PERCH), to join the College from September 2026. Eligible applicants must already have employment contracts within the University, as set out below, and will join the College to support a growing body of Fellows, staff and students promoting engagement in this area. Fellows will be expected to fully engage in the life of Reuben, the University's newest College, as outlined below, and as part of this to engage in regular activities at the College and in the support of its postgraduate students.

This is not an employment position, and to be eligible applicants must be currently employed by the University as academic, researcher or professional staff on a relevant grade. Candidates are welcome from across the University and all Divisions, but will be expected to show how their experience fits the planned expansion of the PERCH area, and how they will be able to support students in their engagement in events and activities within this.

Application deadline: **10th August 2026**

Interviews are likely to be held on: **25th August 2026**

For more information please visit: www.reuben.ox.ac.uk.

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I Reuben College

I.I The vision

There are 39 self-governing and independent colleges at Oxford, giving both academic staff and students the benefits of belonging to a small, interdisciplinary community as well as to a large, internationally renowned institution. The collegiate system fosters a strong sense of community, bringing together leading academics and students across subjects, and from different cultures and countries.

The founding of Reuben College in 2019, supported by a generous benefaction from the Reuben Foundation of £71 million (including £15 million for graduate scholarships), has offered an exciting opportunity to bring together researchers and postgraduate students focused on exploring some of the most important questions of the 21st century. Reuben College provides an environment that stimulates and facilitates interdisciplinary research, while emphasising the qualities of innovation, leadership and entrepreneurship. It supports a community of Fellows and graduates who embrace opportunities to interact with researchers beyond the boundaries of their own disciplines and to engage with colleagues beyond the realm of academia.

I.II Strategic and Academic Themes

Reuben College is committed to maintaining an inclusive and internationally excellent research environment; it expects its Fellows to be active in research and to contribute to a high-quality learning experience for its student body. In selecting Fellows, the Selection Committees will have regard for promoting a diversity of perspectives and approaches, with College Fellows together fostering a culture of interdisciplinary exchange for Reuben students through regular college events, such as seminars, talks and workshops.

To promote the ethos and practice of interdisciplinary interaction, there has been an initial focus on four research clusters, whose themes were chosen for their wide reach across the University, their strongly interdisciplinary nature, and Oxford's existing and potential strengths in these areas. The initial clusters focus on the topics of (a) [Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning](#), (b) [Environmental Change](#), (c) [Cellular Life](#), and (d) [Ethics & Values](#). These clusters have natural synergies, enabling cross-cutting discussions and research collaborations to emerge. The four themes are complemented by a number of strategic stands, notably in [Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#) and in [Public Engagement in Research, Culture & Heritage](#).

The interests and departments of current Fellows in each theme can be found on the College's website: [People | Reuben College](#), filtering by theme and 'person type'.

By October 2027, Reuben will have reached its target student number, having admitted its first students in October 2021, and will begin a new phase under the leadership of a new Head of House - the inaugural College President, Professor Lord (Lionel) Tarassenko having by then completed an 8-year term of office. At this critical stage we are seeking to expand and consolidate the College's distinctive interdisciplinary themes and strategic areas – around which many College activities are organised.

At Reuben College we believe that engaging society with research is an integral part of what it means to be an academic, and that public engagement is an essential part of the research process. We endorse the Royal Society's position that research "should be viewed as a vital part of how society works and be made available to everyone". Reuben College has a genuine – and unique – partnership with GLAM, the University's Division for Gardens, Libraries and Museums, founded on our co-location with the Radcliffe Science Library and the Museums' Collections Teaching and Research Centre, and proximity to the Museum of

Natural History and the Pitt Rivers Museum. This association is enriched by the College's establishment of the Public Engagement with Research, Culture and Heritage (PERCH) theme, led by Governing Body Fellows Janet Stott, Cat Vicente, and Hattie Warburton. Our students and researchers are encouraged to take full advantage of this partnership to access the full benefit of GLAM's learning and research resources, as well as develop innovative teaching methods and public engagement initiatives that can enhance the influence and impact of their own work.

See further details here: <https://www.reuben.ox.ac.uk/public-engagement-research-culture-heritage>.

Candidates are welcome from across the University and all Divisions, but will be expected to show how their experience fits the PERCH strategic area.

I.III Equality, Diversity & Inclusiveness

As a new college, we are building a community of people and practice that has diversity at the heart, for students and staff, for our academic and applied endeavours. This gives all our members both the opportunity and the shared responsibility to shape the culture and ethos of our community. Our commitment to equality and diversity goes hand in hand with our commitment to academic freedom and freedom of speech, as set out in the University's Equality Policy and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan.

Through every one of its events, committees, procedures and practices, the growing community of Reuben College aims to create an environment in which everyone can take advantage of the unique opportunities that living, working and studying in Oxford can bring, whatever their background. We hope that, as our community grows, all members continue to work towards ensuring equity of opportunity for each individual, without exception.

II Post Details

II.I Official (Governing Body) Fellowship

Fellowship duties at Reuben are not insignificant – they are 'hands-on' positions for a College still growing towards steady-state, and all Fellows are expected and encouraged to be consistently and proactively involved, alongside their Departmental positions, in student engagement, College events, and with varied aspects of College leadership and support.

To be eligible applicants must be currently employed by the University in an RSIV, Grade 10, or 9 post, in either an academic, academic related, clinical, or professional service role, or in an 8 post – if they are an independent researcher in an area related to the relevant theme.

Successful candidates will be elected to a Fellowship on a five-year renewable basis, with a mid-term review, and with renewal dependent on satisfactory performance in college duties. Official Fellows will receive College membership and benefits including an annual allowance (of currently £3,000 per annum). However, a Fellowship at the College does not itself constitute employment and does not confer any rights to employment with the University.

II.II Research (Early Career) Fellowships

Research Fellowships form an important component of the vision for Reuben College, and are "early-career research" posts intended to offer college affiliation to postdoctoral researchers at the University who would value contributing to, and engaging in, life at Oxford's newest college.

As early-career researchers, Research Fellows at Reuben College will already have substantive research duties within their respective Division of the University. Duties within the College are

expected to be relatively “light touch”, while emphasising the need for Fellows to be engaged with the life of Reuben College on a regular basis. Perhaps different to the standard model for equivalent posts elsewhere in the University (for example, “Junior Research Fellowships”), the emphasis for Reuben’s Research Fellows is very definitely on bringing an enthusiastic, sustained, and meaningful contribution to College life.

To be eligible applicants must be currently employed by the University in a grade 7 or 8 postdoctoral research or equivalent academic related in either an academic, academic related, clinical, or professional service role.

Successful candidates will be elected to a Research Fellowship for a fixed term of three years, subject to a review at the end of the first year. Research Fellows will receive College membership and benefits including an annual allowance (of currently £2,000 per annum). However, a Fellowship at the College does not itself constitute employment and does not confer any rights to employment with the University.

Reuben College is committed to supporting of its Research Fellows through mentoring. An Official Fellow (in a relevant academic discipline) is therefore linked as a College Mentor to each Research Fellow, providing advice and support in career progression. This is intended to be complementary to any support provided in the Research Fellow’s academic Department.

II.III College Duties

All Fellows of Reuben College have a role to play in the support of its graduate students, in diverse interdisciplinary activities, and in the governance of the College, as outlined below:

- To act as adviser to a number of Reuben College graduate students (currently each Governing Body Fellow is assigned 10 advisees each year, and each Research Fellow 6), with specific termly duties entailed in this;¹
- To regularly attend and assist in hosting College events, such as the College’s ‘[Dining with Dinosaurs](#)’ seminars held weekly in termtime, and in the organization and hosting of other College theme or skills events as appropriate;
- To play a full role in the life and administration of the College. This will include taking part in public engagement projects and events, development, access and outreach work, and/or other projects and activities which help to sustain a thriving college community;
- To organise and lead occasional College seminars, workshops and lectures, as appropriate;
- To be an active and engaged member of relevant committees, attending the majority of scheduled committee meetings of which the Fellow is a member;
- To undertake regular training as required by the College, including holding an understanding of the University’s obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Research Fellows only:

¹ Each graduate student is assigned a College Adviser, who is to:

- Provide pastoral support, for example on health, personal or coping issues, and direct students to appropriate persons for assistance
- Monitor students’ progress through discussion of their university supervision reports
- Discuss any problems or difficulties students may be experiencing in their department or Faculty, and/or with their supervisor
- Consult with college staff with any concerns about a student’s academic progress
- Offer guidance on sources of support available within the College and University

- Once or twice a year, by rota in conjunction with other Research Fellows, to write a 'blog' on a Tuesday evening academic talk in the College's dining hall (for previous examples, see [here](#)); and to otherwise support in College events or publications;
- Meet or otherwise communicate regularly with their College Mentor.

Governing Body Fellows only:

- To be an active and engaged member of Governing Body, attending the majority of scheduled committee meetings each year (i.e. at least 4 per annum);
- To hold College Officerships from time to time – posts that rotate across the Fellowship and which entail specific responsibilities appropriate to the post, normally for a three-year period;
- To be involved in recruitment and in mentoring of the College's Research Fellows (post-docs), or other early career post-holders, as appropriate.

II.IV College Benefits

Official and Research Fellowship are non-stipendiary, but are offered the following benefits:

- Annual Research allowances as outlined below
- Full dining rights, intended to encourage and enable Fellows to frequently attend lunches and dinners in College: currently £9 per weekday to purchase food for personal consumption (excepting limited college closure periods) and free attendance at served college dinners (normally Tuesdays and Thursdays in termtime).
- The opportunity to invite guests to College meals, subject to capacity, and at the Fellow's own expense.

Benefits will continue as normal during any period of family leave or sickness absence, but will be suspended for the period of any research leave, other paid leave (excepting the above), or unpaid leave taken by a Fellow, during which time they choose not to fulfil their college duties. All decisions in these regards will be taken by the President in consultation with the Senior Tutor, with a view to promoting fairness and consistency of treatment amongst the Fellows.

Research Fellows only:

- A research allowance (of currently £2,000 per annum). This research allowance is for supporting research costs, such as the purchase of books and equipment, conference fees, academic travel, etc., and would be claimed via presenting corresponding receipts or other proof-of-costs to College.

Governing Body Fellows only:

- An annual allowance (of currently £3,000 per annum). This can be paid either directly (for non-Tier 2 postholders only, and thus will be taxable), or as a research allowance (to support, for example, conferences, events, or research costs).

II.V College Terms and Conditions

A Fellowship at the College does not itself constitute employment and does not confer any rights to employment with the University. Fellowships will be dependent upon continued University employment, intending to provide College affiliation while the Fellow holds a relevant appointment at one of the University's Departments or Faculties. Fellows are required to inform the President and Senior Tutor of the College if they are given notice under their University contract of employment: any Fellowship will expire automatically on the same dates as the expiry of a contract of employment with the University.

Fellows may not hold a College Fellowship at any other college concurrently with their Fellowship at the College. However, since the College is at present a Society of the University, it does not hold charitable status in its own right, and so no Reuben College Fellows are charitable trustees of the College.

All Fellows are required to hold their Fellowship under the terms of the College Statutes and By-laws in force. All Fellows are thus bound by the relevant policies and procedures of the College as published on the College's website and in internal directories

Research Fellows only:

- Subject to continued tenure of the departmental post held on election, successful candidates will be elected to a Research Fellowship for a fixed term of three years, subject to a review at the end of the first year of satisfactory engagement with College life.

Governing Body Fellows only:

- Subject to continued tenure of the departmental post held on election, the successful candidate will be elected to an Official Fellowship on a five-year renewable basis, with a midterm review, and with renewal dependent on satisfactory performance in college duties

III. Applications

III. I Eligibility

Tier 2 postholders are welcome to apply - this is not an employment position and should not necessitate a new visa application. (However, this also means that the College would not be able to act as sponsor for any visa renewal.)

Candidates with University contracts of less than the Fellowship period are welcome to apply, with College election then coterminous with that shorter contract. The Selection Committee will however have regard for continuity in the college fellowship, and particular for provision for its graduate students. University postholders who do not hold a University contract for beyond September 2028 (for Research Fellowship applicants) or September 2029 (for Official Fellowship applicants) are thus less likely to be elected. Applicants expecting renewal of any current fixed-term contract should outline this in their application.

Research Fellows only:

- Must be employed as a grade 7 or 8 postdoctoral researcher within the University in either an academic, academic related, clinical, or professional service role
- Those who already have a Fellowship (e.g., a Junior Research Fellowship) with another college or society will not be eligible. Please note that teaching positions in the form of "Lecturerships" (e.g., Stipendiary or Non-stipendiary College Lecturerships) are not counted as Fellowships, and so those who are Lecturers in other colleges would be eligible.
- Please note that there is no restriction on the elapsed time since the applicant's doctoral viva.

Governing Body Fellows only:

- Must be employed by the University in an RSIV, Grade 10, or 9 post, or in an 8 post if they are an independent researcher in an area related to the relevant Reuben theme in either an academic, academic related, clinical, or professional service role.

If you have any questions about your eligibility, please contact president-pa@reuben.ox.ac.uk.

III.II Person specification & Selection Criteria

Applicants will be assessed on their eligibility, their ability to perform those duties specified above, and the College's need for intellectual diversity and excellence.

Candidates are thus encouraged in their applications to include evidence of the following:

- Period of remaining tenure of relevant University post held
- Willingness and capacity to act as the college adviser for Reuben graduate students
- interdisciplinary professional interests which complement those of the PERCH at Reuben and as able to contribute to the PERCH strategic area;
- enthusiasm for working with colleagues but within the college and with other partners (including in and outside of the University) in the organization and delivery of interdisciplinary activities within the college (for example, seminar series, workshops, and reading groups)
- an ability to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment for people from different backgrounds;
- Strong communication skills, both written and oral;
- As appropriate, a commitment to outreach, knowledge exchange, public engagement, and/or promoting innovation.

III.III How to apply

To apply, please send a (maximum) 10-page CV and covering letter to the President's Executive Assistant (president-pa@reuben.ox.ac.uk) **by noon on 10th August 2026**.

This CV, attached as a pdf, should state clearly which of the Fellowship posts you are applying for (Research or Official Fellowship) and include a supporting statement (a) specifying your relevant skills and experience; and (b) describing how you would be able to contribute to the college.

Please include contact details for two referees, one of whom should be your current Head of Department or equivalent. Referees will be contacted for shortlisted candidates only – please confirm if you consent for them to be contacted at that time.

Applicants are also asked to complete an [equality form](#) for monitoring purposes only; these forms will not be viewed by members of the Selection Committees.

It is anticipated that interviews for shortlisted candidates will take place on **25th August 2026**.