Visiting Fellowships
Keble College, University of Oxford

Keble College is seeking to appoint one or more Visiting Fellows for 2020.

The Fellows will be able to base themselves in the College, to take part in its intellectual and social life, and develop and share ideas across boundaries. They will be expected to make a contribution to the College community through, for example, workshops with graduates or a public lecture.

The Fellowships are aimed not just at current academics, but also at individuals in public life - including the arts, business and government - who are in a position to take advantage of the opportunities offered by an Oxford college, and who can add something distinctive to its academic life.

This is a new scheme, launched to coincide with our 150th anniversary in 2020, and with the opening of the new H B Allen Centre for graduates. The Centre also accommodates the offices of Oxford Sciences Innovation and the Oxford Robotics Institute; Keble is keen to explore the connections between research and entrepreneurship.

It is intended to appoint at least one, but possible more Visiting Fellows per year; the exact number is subject to the availability of suitable accommodation. It may be possible for us to host two Fellows at the same time. Thanks to the generosity of a donor, the Fellowship scheme will continue in 2021 and for a number of years thereafter.

The Fellowships

The Fellows, who will have already demonstrated a high level of achievement appropriate to their fields of research or public life and to their stage of career, may stay at Keble for periods of between three and twelve months. During this time they will be entitled to membership of the Senior Common Room, accommodation in the H B Allen Centre, and meals. They will also receive an honorarium and a contribution to travel costs. In return, Visiting Fellows will participate in the intellectual life of the College and the University through, for example public lectures, seminars and workshops. There is no pre-determined requirement, and the College is open to ideas about how the Fellows may make a contribution; it is not anticipated that the contribution will be onerous. The Fellows will be encouraged to engage with the College’s academics, graduates and undergraduates, with a particular emphasis on including non-specialists. The accent will be on the sharing of ideas across boundaries, whether they be between disciplines or, more generally, between academia and other fields of public life, including business. With the arrival of the offices of Oxford Sciences
Innovation on Keble’s premises, the College is interested in exploring the connections between academia – particularly research – and entrepreneurship or innovation.

The College itself provides valuable opportunities to Visiting Fellows: the special multi-disciplinary environment of an Oxford college centred on a model of mixed teaching and research grounded in a residential context; the established energy of college-centred and inter-disciplinary research activity; and the opening of the H B Allen Centre, where a research hotel sits alongside a graduate centre and innovative research activities, including Oxford Sciences Innovation and the Oxford Robotics Institute. Prompted by the opening of the Centre, its Academic Director – Dr Ian Archer – organises a programme of academic and social activities for the graduate community. It is hoped that the Fellows will be able to bring something to this community, although there will also be opportunities to engage with undergraduates.

The scope of the Visiting Fellowships is intentionally broad. They will suit Faculty academics who are on sabbatical leave from their permanent University positions and whose interests intersect with those of the College’s academics. But equally, they may suitable for individuals in the arts, business and/or government who can benefit from a period away from their habitual routine. In essence, Keble is looking for individuals who can bring something new or different to the college and the wider University. The Fellowships are not intended for academics currently holding a post at the University of Oxford, or for PhD students.

Visiting Fellows will be expected to:

- Actively engage in the intellectual life of college, including with academics, graduates and undergraduates
- Contribute to the intellectual environment by providing at least one lecture, seminar, workshop, or performance, showing a commitment which should be appropriate to the duration of the fellowship
- Write a brief report on Fellowship at its conclusion

The benefits of the Fellowship include:

- Two-room apartment with kitchen facilities in the H B Allen Centre
- Dining rights in College, including the right to bring a number of guests
- Membership of the Senior Common Room
- An honorarium of £1000 per month
- Travel costs of up to £1000
- Access to College facilities including Library, sports facilities, gym (subject to a small membership fee)
- University card, providing access to University libraries

Keble College and the H B Allen Centre

Keble is one of the 38 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. There are around fifty Official and Professorial Fellows, whose research interests range from Aegean prehistory to Tort Law, cancer to climate science. The Official Fellows, all of whom are engaged in active research, also take the lead in teaching undergraduates. Although the Fellows’ research interests are wide-ranging, there are informal groups of researchers in the fields of Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Complexity (including partial differential equations), and Creativity.

The College was founded by public subscription in 1870. Keble is currently one of the largest colleges in Oxford and has around 800 students, roughly 50:50 undergraduates and graduates. Undergraduates study the full range of degrees available at the University (with one or two exceptions). Among the graduates around 100 are on modular part-time courses, including the Executive MBA. As well as providing a place of residence, the College supports a wide range of social, cultural and sporting activities for its students. There is a large theatre – the O’Reilly Theatre – and a very active Music Society and Choir.

In 2018 Keble opened the H B Allen Centre, which is a short distance away from its main site on Parks Road, in the heart of the city. Strategically placed between the University’s Science area and the developing Humanities hub on the Radcliffe observatory Quarter, it is home to around 250 graduates as well as the offices of Oxford Sciences Innovation. The Oxford Robotics Institute, pioneers in the field of automated vehicles, has its main labs and offices there.

Find out more:
Keble College: www.keble.ox.ac.uk
Oxford Sciences Innovation: https://www.oxfordsciencesinnovation.com/
Oxford Robotics Institute https://ori.ox.ac.uk/

Selection

The Fellowships will be awarded by Governing Body on the basis of recommendations from a panel jointly constituted by the College’s Research and Fellowships Committees. The panel will consider a single gathered field of applicants. Because the field for the fellowship is potentially wide, the selection criteria are very broad. The panel will be looking for: high standing in a field of research or public life; an ability to work and communicate across boundaries; potential to contribute to the college community; and ability to bring something new or different to the college and the wider University. The panel will take account of how individuals fit with the research and other interests of the existing Fellowship, as well as the range of interests represented in the graduate community. Information on Fellows’ interests can be found from the website listed above.

The panel will take full account of its obligations towards equality and diversity.

How to apply

Written applications should include an up-to-date CV (of not more than six pages) together with a short statement of how you seek to benefit from the Fellowship, what you are willing and able to contribute to the College community, and the proposed dates of your appointment. Applicants should also provide the names and contact details of two referees who can be contacted for references.
Applications should be sent to the Warden’s PA, Mrs Trish Long, at Keble College, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PG. They may be sent as email attachments to Trish.Long@keble.ox.ac.uk.

The closing date is 12 noon 15th October 2019

Inquiries about the Visiting Fellowships can be made to the Senior Tutor, Dr Alisdair Rogers (ali.rogers@keble.ox.ac.uk)

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.