Further Particulars:
The Girton Research Fellowship in Science 2024

1. Applications are invited for a Research Fellowship to be held in any science subject, starting on 1 October 2024 and tenable for three years. The competition involves assessment of candidates’ submitted work and interview. Potential applicants should note that the standard needed to progress to the later stages of the competition is extremely high.

2. A Research Fellowship, commencing on 1 October 2024 and tenable for three years, is offered for research in any science subject. The Fellowship is open to graduates of any university and of any age, however it is intended to support those at an early stage of their academic career and will normally be awarded to a candidate who has recently completed a Ph.D. or is close to completion.

3. This is a Research Fellowship under College Statutes. Election into a Fellowship is made by the Electors at the conclusion of the Research Fellowship competition held in the Lent Term (January-March). As a Fellow of the College, the successful candidate will be a member of the College Governing Body and is expected to take part in College life, including, if required, direction of undergraduate studies, College committee work, and interviewing of prospective undergraduates. They are also eligible to stand for election to the College Council.

4. Candidates will be asked to provide a statement of not more than 1,000 words summarizing their current and future research, together with a summary for the informed layperson of not more than 200 words. The research statement should describe briefly how the proposed research will link to existing programs in Cambridge; while it is not expected that a candidate will have identified a scientific “home” at this stage, the Electors will find it helpful to see how the work will be enabled and enhanced through interactions with staff and facilities already present within the University. If the research requires access to bench space, critical instrumentation, specialist experimental facilities or supercomputing resources, the candidate should indicate what will be needed and, ideally, outline a plan for obtaining it.

5. Those longlisted will be invited to submit work for external assessment. Some of these candidates will then be shortlisted for interview.

6. Candidates who have been invited to attend an interview and are travelling to the College from overseas should note that the College cannot pay for international travel. We shall,
however, cover the costs of travel within the UK and offer overnight accommodation at Girton. Overseas candidates may be interviewed online.

7. The Electors reserve the right to make no election if no suitable candidates present themselves.

8. The present post-doctoral salary scale (from 1 August 2023) is £24,533 to £27,181, and the scale for pre-award of PhD is £23,700 to £25,742. The remuneration of the Fellowship is reviewed annually, is paid monthly in arrears by bank transfer and is pensionable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme. Research Fellows may claim research expenses up to a total of £3,000 over the three years.

9. Accommodation may be available, if required, and further details can be obtained on request. All accommodation provided will be treated as a taxable benefit by the HMRC. All Research Fellows are entitled to free Commons (i.e., meals) except when the College kitchens are closed. A living-out allowance (currently 3,034 p.a.) is paid to Research Fellows who live out of College. There is also a child allowance of £700 p.a. (non-pensionable) for the first child. These are non-contractual benefits.

10. The College Council must approve any externally-paid employment. The appointed Research Fellow is required to provide the equivalent of between four and six hours of paid supervision teaching per week during the twenty weeks of the teaching year; in some circumstances, this requirement may be reduced in the first year of Fellowship. Of these hours, four per week will be at an enhanced rate of pay under a Category Aa Lectureship contract; additional hours up to the permitted maximum will be paid at the standard inter-collegiate rate.

11. The Council reserves the right to replace the Fellowship by one of smaller value or one without remuneration if the Fellow should hold, or subsequently obtain, a Fellowship or other substantial remuneration from any other source. The Fellow is required to report to Council any such Fellowship or other remuneration at the time of their election. Any subsequent appointment or award must be reported to Council.

12. Research Fellows must report on the progress of their research to the Electors by 1 September each year. The Electors reserves the right to discontinue a Fellowship where it is not satisfied with a Fellow’s progress.

13. Please note: any offer of employment to a successful applicant cannot be confirmed until pre-employment checks have been satisfactorily completed. This will include a working status check, for which the applicant will be asked to provide appropriate documentation. The College has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.

*The College is an Inclusive and Equal Opportunities employer and cares for and looks after its employees, ensuring fair and equal treatment. Any necessary adjustments will be considered to the above in keeping with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010. Applications are welcome from candidates of all backgrounds particularly from those belonging to groups that are underrepresented among Cambridge Colleges.*