Further Particulars of the Girton Research Fellowship in the Arts 2020

1. This post-doctoral Research Fellowship will commence in October 2020 and will be tenable for three years (to September 2023). It is intended that the Fellowship will help the incumbent establish a world-class research profile and gain significant teaching experience to form an all-important first step of their academic career. This year’s competition is in Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Social Anthropology and History. No other subjects are eligible for consideration.

2. The closing date for applications is 18:00 (GMT/UTC) on Friday 9 January 2020. Long-listed candidates will be invited to submit work by Friday 24 January 2020, and interviews for short-listed candidates will be held on Monday 9 March 2020.

3. Girton College is one of the larger Cambridge colleges and is set in 50 acres of beautiful park, orchard and woodland 2.5 miles northwest of Cambridge city centre. It was founded in 1869 as the UK’s first residential university college offering degree-level education to women. Although it has now been mixed for forty years, it retains a proud tradition of diversity and inclusion alongside a reputation for academic excellence. Its buildings include a library, chapel, music practice rooms, and extensive sports and leisure facilities, including the only indoor swimming pool of any Cambridge College. There are a wide range of thriving societies and sports teams in College as well as a lively range of academic and social events where early career researchers interact with graduate students and other research-active fellows. Membership of Girton also carries with it automatic membership of Cambridge University Library, one of the great research libraries of the world.

4. The Fellowship is open to post-doctoral candidates of any university and of any age, but it is intended to support those at an early stage of their academic career. It is not intended for anyone who has already held a substantial post-doctoral position of two years or more (excluding any 1-year teaching or research associate positions, or career breaks).

5. Candidates must have submitted their doctoral thesis by 30 September 2020 (ie before taking up the fellowship).

6. Election to Fellowship is made by the Electors at the conclusion of the Research Fellowship competition held each year in the Lent Term (January to March). The competition involves the assessment of candidates’ submitted work and an interview. Candidates are asked to provide a 600-word summary of current and future research with their application. Long-listed candidates will be invited to submit two further pieces of written work, each of no more than 10,000 words, accompanied by a short note explaining how each fits into their overall research programme.

7. If you are longlisted you will be asked to submit these pieces of work with only a few days’ notice; therefore you should have them prepared well ahead so that you are able to respond rapidly if you are successful in getting through to the longlisting stage.
8. Candidates travelling from overseas for the final interview should note that, should they be invited to interview, 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 via Skype.

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

10. The emoluments of the Fellowship are reviewed annually (in August). The present post-doctoral scale from 1 August 2019 is £21,414 to £24,029. The Fellowship is pensionable under the University’s Superannuation Scheme (USS). Emoluments are paid monthly in arrears by bank transfer.

11. Grants, not exceeding £2,500 and payable in one or more installments during the three-year tenure of the Fellowship, will be made at the discretion of the Electors for approved research expenses. Approved expenses include the University Fee, where payable.

12. Research Fellows are members of the College Governing Body and are expected to take part in the life and governance of the College, including participation in College committees. They are also eligible to stand for the College Council.

13. All Research Fellows are entitled to free Commons in College (that is, meals) except when the College kitchens are closed.

14. Furnished accommodation in one-bedroom flats or small sets is available for single or accompanied Research Fellows. The present charge for accommodation for a single Fellow in a one-bedroom flat is £583.50 per month (plus Council Tax where applicable); a higher charge will be made for a Fellow living in College accommodation with his or her partner. The College also offers a child allowance of £679 p.a. (non pensionable) for the first child.

15. Larger, family housing is in limited supply and subject to availability, therefore the College offers a Living out Allowance of £2,715 p.a. (non pensionable) for Research Fellows choosing to live away from College.

16. The College Council must approve any externally paid employment. It is anticipated that the post-holder will provide the equivalent of four 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. Permission is normally granted for not more than six hours’ teaching per week. The annual stipend for this will depend on the number of hours and currently starts at £4,053 per annum for four hours.

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

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. Girton College follows an Equal Opportunities Policy.