



WESLEY HOUSE, CAMBRIDGE

Appointment of a Director of Research

A Director of Research is sought for appointment by the Wesley House Trustee/Directors from 1 September 2018. Applications are invited from scholars in the Methodist family who are research active in contemporary theology from a Methodist/Wesleyan perspective. The successful applicant will:

- Recruit and supervise international and UK research students working on contextual Methodist theologies
- Develop and co-ordinate the college's research activities
- Sit on the editorial board of the college's online journal, Holiness
- Play a key role in the core staff team of the college as a College Officer
- Work ecumenically with colleagues in the Cambridge Theological Federation
- Teach on the programmes of the college (online, short courses and validated programmes)

General Information

[Wesley House, Cambridge](#) is a Methodist Theological College which is an approved house of residence within the [University of Cambridge](#) and a founder member of the [Cambridge Theological Federation](#) (CTF). As part of the CTF we deliver degree programmes together with the University of Cambridge and on behalf of [Durham University](#) and Anglia Ruskin University. Through these partnership we are able to offer undergraduate programmes, masters programmes and doctoral degrees. Wesley House also works with [Wesley Theological Seminary](#) in Washington DC to deliver an international DMin programme in Cambridge and is in active conversations with other international partner institutions..

The college is located on Jesus Lane in the centre of Cambridge. Following a two year building programme we have completely refurbished our 1920s premises and constructed two entirely new buildings adding a new library and archive facility, new teaching rooms and 15 new ensuite study bedrooms.

We are an intentional community of prayer and scholarship within the Methodist/Wesleyan tradition. Students and scholars are drawn from across the world as well as from the UK. They are funded independently and through a variety of denominational grant bodies and through Wesley House's own bursary fund. Current students on validated programmes

come from England, Ireland, Fiji, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Russia, Scotland, Sierra Leone, South Korea, USA and Zambia.

Our aim is to resource the Church in its service to the world through the formation of theologically creative and contextually responsive leaders. In addition to the residential community in Cambridge we offer some online materials for lay and ordained leadership development and work with partners to develop capacity and skills in other parts of the UK and the world.

Wesley House currently has two other core members of academic staff in addition to this post. The Principal oversees the life of the college, supervises doctoral students in the field of practical theology and is currently engaged with the British Methodist Church in the implementation of supervision for all its ordained ministers. The Director of Studies recruits and directs the studies of undergraduate and masters' students and co-ordinates the short courses run by the college. In addition to core staff the college engages a Director of Online Learning and a Commissioning Editor for the journal, Holiness.

The college has created this new appointment to develop its research activities, particularly in the field of Methodist/Wesleyan theology. This role will be key to the development of the college's reputation as a global resource for contextual Methodist theologies. The college has archive material relating to early Methodism housed in its new archive facilities and this collection is under active development; the college enjoys good relations with partner Methodist churches around the world, is a member of the Wesley Studies Seminar in the UK and of the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges and Universities.

Applicants will need to be people of vision who are able to help Wesley House to move into a new future. They will need to be flexible in their working patterns as the college develops and be able to work collaboratively within the team as it evolves. The successful applicant will be an active member of a denomination eligible to join the World Methodist Council.

Applications

The deadline for applications is noon on 27 October 2017.

Please send applications to: principal@wesley.cam.ac.uk

Applications should include a full academic CV, details of 3 referees and a letter referencing the job description and person specification.

Wesley House is an equal opportunities employer.

Interviews

Interviews will be held at Wesley House Cambridge on 13th November 2017 and will involve an overnight stay from 5pm on 12th November. Visits are welcome beforehand and can be arranged via office@wesley.cam.ac.uk. A preliminary interview may be held by phone or skype. Those invited to interview will be informed by email by 1st November.

Job Description

Responsible to: The Principal

Responsible for:

- Development of the college as a globally respected resource for contemporary Methodist theologies.
- Development and co-ordination of Wesley House research activities
- Direction of Wesley House research students

Key contacts:

- Members of college including research students, staff, sabbatical visitors and those engaging in other kinds of learning
- Members of the editorial board of the journal, Holiness and members of the Academic Committee and Library committee of the college
- Federation colleagues including the Registrar and the Director of Postgraduate Studies
- Colleagues in Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin Universities concerned with the admission of research students and their progress
- Others supervising Methodist research students
- Other Methodist research institutes and institutional partners in the UK and abroad

Key Responsibilities:

1. Recruit and direct Wesley House research students

The fastest growing sector of Wesley House's student body relates to doctoral students. The role will include the handling of enquiries in relation to all research degrees (MPhil, DProf, PhD); helping applicants develop appropriate proposals and identify grant funds; the processing of admissions and the finding of supervisors for successful applicants. The role will also include the monitoring of student progress on these programmes and the handling of intermissions, withdrawals, graduations.

2. Supervise research students in the area of Methodist theology

A key part of the role will be to offer supervision to up to 15 research students in this vital area for the college's reputation and development. Ideally the post-holder will already have supervised to completion. Training will be offered in supervising research students by Anglia Ruskin University. It is highly likely that the post-holder will be involved in capacity development work with at least one overseas partner. This will involve negotiating appropriate arrangements with formal partners and some overseas travel.

3. Develop and co-ordinate the college's research activities including the involvement of visiting scholars and sabbatical guests

- a. Relate to the UK based Wesley Studies Seminar of which Wesley House is a member including the co-ordination of that seminar when it visits Cambridge.
- b. Sit on the editorial board of the college's online journal, Holiness and on the academic and library committees of the college in order to offer strategic leadership that co-ordinates these resources with the research activities of the college.
- c. Design and run activities that will support the research development of Wesley House students, staff and associate members and that will involve a wider network of scholars and practitioners through dissemination and collaboration e.g. within the CTF, across disciplines within our partner universities, at global Methodist events.
- d. Work individually with visiting scholars and sabbatical visitors who need support for their programme of study, helping them make links with appropriate scholars and seminars and organising supervision where appropriate.
- e. Engage in research activity that results in regular publications.

4. Play a key role in the core staff team of the college as a College Officer

The Business Director and the three academic core staff form the College Officers' Meeting. Together we implement the strategic priorities of the Trustees across the range of the college's activities; we develop new areas of academic work for presentation to the Trustees; and we manage the day to day activities of the college.

The post-holder will be expected to play a full role in the college officers' meeting, in implementing the strategic priorities of the college and in developing a number of projects by negotiation within the team.

5. Help to host and lead the resident community.

As a resident community as well as a dispersed one there are a variety of hosting duties to be shared amongst the staff and student body. The post-holder will be expected normally to be present in college Monday-Friday including Thursday evenings and for occasional weekend events. It is expected that staff are normally present in daily prayers and at Federation worship and at the twice weekly college meals. The post-holder will be asked to participate as appropriate in:

- a. The leading of worship in the college and the CTF
- b. The hosting of social events
- c. The hosting of visiting scholars and other visitors
- d. Offering regular tutorial support to students of the college as part of the tutorial team
- e. Induction events for new members of college
- f. Public facing events
- g. Short courses

6. Share teaching in the college

Teach on the programmes of the college (online, short courses and validated programmes) as negotiated within the team, e.g. Easter School for preachers; online course in Wesleyan theology for today; DMin block teaching weeks; MA modules either distance, summer school or in the regular CTF timetable.

7. Any other duties within the scope of the job description as reasonably required by the College.

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Relevant Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theological teaching in Higher Education including involvement in the supervision of research ○ Academic programme development ○ Being an active lay or ordained member of the Methodist Church* ○ Being a leader of worship/preacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supervision to completion of at least one PhD/DProf ○ Experience of mentoring/supervision of those in formation for Christian leadership ○ Experience of community living and leadership ○ Online teaching using moodle and adobe connect
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PhD in theology or a related discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Qualification in teaching or adult education
Special knowledge & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proven teaching ability in formal and informal contexts ○ Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication and presentation skills ○ Knowledge of Methodist history and theology ○ Interest in the development of contemporary contextually embedded theologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge of developments in ecumenical training patterns for lay ministries and ordination. ○ Knowledge of the structures and ethos of the Methodist Churches in a least two parts of the world ○ Knowledge of current higher education structures and ethos in the UK
Special qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to work collaboratively as a senior member of a team ○ The stature/potential to command respect as an international Methodist scholar ○ Ability to develop relationships cross culturally and with overseas partners. ○ Commitment to working with diverse theological and ecumenical positions ○ Ability to meet deadlines and prioritise work 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eligible to work in the UK (a visa can be sponsored) ○ For ordained Methodists the appropriate permission to serve 	

*or another Church eligible for membership of the World Methodist Council

Remuneration

Pay and remuneration

- Pay equal to the basic stipend paid to a presbyter in the Methodist Church of Britain (£23,556 from 1st September 2017) plus a College Tutor allowance of 20% of stipend.
- 10% contribution to a pension fund of the post-holder's choice. Alternatively the College will contribute to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, if permitted.
- Free 2-3 bedroomed accommodation valued at £1500 pcm , at or close to, Wesley House for the duration of the appointment
- Out of pocket expenses as approved by the Principal
- Sick pay as detailed in the Wesley House Staff Handbook

Hours and place of work

- 40 hours per week located at Wesley House Cambridge
- Residence in college usually expected Mon-Fri during term time and as agreed in vacations.
- Whilst the normal place of work will be Cambridge some travel to partner institutions and training venues in the UK and abroad will be required
- Time in lieu will be offered for Saturday or residential course working.
- Saturdays will usually be free of duties
- Sundays will involve occasional liturgical/social duties
- Holiday entitlement is 25 days per annum together with bank holidays. Where a bank holiday falls within term time or within a short course it is regarded as a normal working day and a day off in lieu may be taken outside term time.