

Election to Fellowship 2026-27

Guidance for Fellow Proposers/Mentors¹

Mentorship should be viewed as a key feature of the Fellowship process, whereby an applicant will usually be expected to have availed of the valuable knowledge and experience of skilled Fellows to guide them through the preparation and Fellowship application process. An applicant for Fellowship will usually be expected to have meaningfully engaged with two Fellow proposers/mentors for a sufficiently extended duration² for them to be confident in characterising the applicant's suitability for Fellowship to the Central Fellowship Committee.

The role of Fellow proposer/mentor is important in helping foster and develop the academic community we are part of. In this respect a mentor should provide guidance, advice and support to assist the applicant towards succeeding in their Fellowship application and, if elected, in actively contributing as a Fellow and helping develop Fellowship.

Proposers/mentors should be drawn from different faculties, with one being a Fellow of longer standing and one being a more recently elected Fellow³.

At least one of the proposers/mentors should complete the Proposer form that accompanies the application for Fellowship⁴. It is expected that this form will be completed in an honest, thorough, objective and personalised fashion, which is deeply informed by the extended engagement between applicant and proposer(s).

All parties should have consulted the Statutes and fully appraised themselves of the deep, continuing and distinctive nature of Fellowship and the expectations of Fellows. They should also have given careful attention to the 'Election to Fellowship - Guidance for Applicants' document.

The proposer should not be, or have been, a collaboratorⁱ in the applicants activities. Proposers should not nominate current or past collaborators of an applicant for assessment of their application.

As proposers know, Fellowship is a role and responsibility that is deeply embedded in the academic standing, governance, operation and fabric of the College. A primary goal and purpose of the role of proposer/mentor is to inform, advise and to help prepare the applicant for becoming a Fellow. The initial interactions should help inform an applicant of:

- The key provisions and requirements set out in the Statutes that applicants must be aware of
- What being a Fellow involves and the rights afforded Fellows
- The role of Fellows in the academic standing, governance, operation and fabric of the College

¹ The terms 'proposer' and 'mentor' are used interchangeably and equivalently in this informational document.

² This "extended duration" will normally be expected to be no less than 24 months. In the nomination process closing in 2026, this will normally be no less than 12 months. In 2027, and thereafter, this will normally be expected to be no less than 24 months. "Meaningful engagement" in this context refers to sustained, intentional engagement intended to demonstrate and convince proposer(s) as to the applicant's intent, commitment, contribution, and consequence.

³ 'Long standing' will normally be taken to signify any Fellow in the upper half of the list of Fellows available in the College Calendar, General Information - Part I, B – Officers and Fellows in the year the application is submitted. 'More recently elected' will normally be taken to be any Fellow in the lower half of the list of Fellows available in the College Calendar, General Information - Part I, B – Officers and Fellows in the year the application is submitted.

⁴ The proposer form may also be jointly completed by both proposers.

- The commitment provided for by the Statutes and the Promise
- How and when they may be expected to contribute to the community of Fellows and to College
- The roles they may be called upon by the Provost to undertake
- The nature of the leadership locally, nationally and internationally that characterise the activities of many Fellows.
- Collegiality and community, and the centrality of Fellows within the makeup of College

ⁱ For the purposes of this process, Collaborators are defined as those who have been involved in the supervision of the applicant, and those with whom the applicant has engaged in joint work or activity that fall within the scope of assessable activities, contributions and/or roles under the application for Fellowship process.