



DEPARTMENT OF
**ENGINEERING
SCIENCE**



Appointment of

Professorship of Civil Engineering

Appointment Details – December 2024

www.eng.ox.ac.uk

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OVERVIEW



The Department of Engineering Science and Brasenose College seek to appoint to the Statutory Professorship of Civil Engineering with effect from 1 October 2025, or as soon as possible thereafter. A non-stipendiary Fellowship with the College is attached to this Professorship.

This post is a Statutory Professorship. Statutory Professorships are held by academics of the highest calibre, with an international level of academic excellence and a world-leading research reputation. There are currently 15 Statutory Professors within the Department of Engineering Science, working alongside about 130 further academics, the majority of whom are either Associate Professors or full (titular) Professors.

Statutory Professors exercise broad academic leadership across their department and college, and more widely in their subject at the national and international level. They can serve as Head of Department if asked to do so by the relevant academic division. For a description of academic posts at Oxford, please see <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/academic-posts-at-oxford>.

This appointment is a key part of the strategic plan for the Department and University. The Professor of Civil Engineering is expected to provide strategic academic and research leadership in Civil Engineering and will contribute appropriately to the administration of the subject area, and in the wider Department.

They will work collaboratively with their academic colleagues to develop the direction of Civil Engineering research and teaching at Oxford, aligned with developments and initiatives in the subject area in the UK and internationally, and to further advance and promote the subject within the University to ensure its continued success.

You should possess an outstanding research record and will be of internationally recognised stature in Civil Engineering, broadly interpreted across the sub-disciplines. Your specialised interests will likely extend or complement current activities in the Civil and Offshore Engineering research group, within which Civil Engineering sits, including in structural engineering and materials, geotechnical engineering or environmental fluid mechanics (see www.eng.ox.ac.uk/civil/research/). You will be expected to pursue a research programme at the forefront of the subject internationally, providing research leadership of the highest calibre to colleagues working in this field, and embracing the opportunity to shape the direction of Civil Engineering research within the Department and the wider University. Furthermore, you will play a leading role in the planning and development of the proposed Engineering and Technology innovation Hub at Osney (ETHOS) building, which will provide state-of-the-art laboratory and office space for Civil Engineering at Oxford.

You will contribute appropriately to the recruitment of new academics, including providing mentorship to those appointed, as well as take initiative for the funding and management of appropriate shared resources to underpin a thriving research community in Civil Engineering, including line management of support staff.

OVERVIEW



Applications are particularly welcome and encouraged from women, black, and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford. The University holds an Athena SWAN bronze award and a Race Equality Charter bronze award at institutional level in recognition of its efforts to introduce organisational and cultural practices that promote gender and racial equality so as to create a better working environment for all.

All contributing departments place a strong emphasis on developing a workplace based on principles of equality and diversity and all also hold Athena SWAN awards – a bronze award in the case of Engineering Science. Further information can be obtained from equality@admin.ox.ac.uk and from www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/equality-and-diversity/athena-swan within the MPLS Division.

How to apply

For more information or an informal conversation, please contact our executive search partner TalentEdu at MHolleran@TalentEdu.com or on [+44 203 290 290 7](tel:+442032902907). All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence; they will not form part of the selection decision. Applications should be made through TalentEdu via their website: <https://talentedu.com/jobs/civil-engineering>.

The job description is available on the University's jobs page at https://my.corehr.com/pls/uoxrecruit/erg_jobspec_details_form.jobspec?p_id=176045 and includes the duties of the post and further details of how to apply.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE



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Engineering teaching and research at Oxford take place in a unified Department of Engineering Science. The Department is a lively and intellectually stimulating community that performs to the highest international levels in both teaching and research. Our academic staff are committed to a common engineering foundation as well as to advanced work in their own specialties, which include most branches of the subject. Teaching and research activities fall under eight broad headings, but there is much overlap and there are no hard boundaries: Biomedical, Chemical and Process, Civil and Offshore, Control, Electrical and Optoelectronic, Information, Solid Mechanics and Materials, and Thermofluids and Energy.

Teaching

We aim to admit 170-180 undergraduates per year, all of whom take 4-year courses leading to the MEng degree. The courses are accredited at MEng level by the major engineering Institutions. The syllabus has a common core extending through the first two years. The third year includes specialist options, a computation project, and a group design project. The fourth year includes further specialist material and an individual research project. The Department is currently ranked 5th and 3rd in the world in Engineering & Technology by Times Higher Education and by QS, respectively.

Research

Research in the Department is particularly strong. Direct funding of research grants and contracts, from a variety of sources, amounts to an annual turnover of approximately £70m. We have strong collaborative links with other departments, particularly computer science, materials science, medicine, and the Saïd Business School. In the most recent national assessment of university research, REF2021, the Department was ranked #2 in the UK in terms of overall research quality based on the percentage of the submission judged to be world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour. Moreover, the Department was tied for #1 for overall research environment and ranked #1 for research impact.

People

The Department employs 140 academic staff, including 11 statutory professors, 6 research chairs, and 42 full professors. We have approximately 600 research students and about 250 postdoctoral researchers, as well as experienced teams of teaching support staff, professional services and administrative staff, and technicians. The Department values wellbeing and career development for all members of the community and actively fosters a welcoming and inclusive working environment.

Facilities

The Department has modern, well-equipped laboratories and workshops, which together with offices, lecture theatres, and other facilities have a net floor area of about 25,000 square metres. More information is available at www.eng.ox.ac.uk.



CIVIL ENGINEERING AT OXFORD



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The Professor of Civil Engineering will bring research leadership to Civil Engineering, as part of the Civil and Offshore Engineering Research Group, which operates as a unified grouping crossing the boundaries between structural engineering, geotechnical engineering and environmental fluid mechanics. In addition to the Statutory Professor, there are currently 13 full-time senior academics in the Group, including a Royal Academy of Engineering Research Chair and six full Professors, working alongside a UKRI Future Leaders Fellow, 3 Departmental Lecturers, a Career Development Fellow, 15 post-doctoral researchers and approximately 60 doctoral research students. The Group is supported by a technician and an administrative assistant and hosts around 5 academic visitors at any point in time.

The Civil and Offshore Engineering Research Group carries out outstanding research in a range of areas:

- geotechnical engineering, with a particularly strong record in offshore applications;
- structures, with strengths in structural dynamics, deployable structures and structural materials;
- fluids, where there is a long-standing record of leading work in ocean wave mechanics.

Much of the group's research is focused on offshore renewable energy, with major teams devoted to offshore wind and to tidal stream power, collaborating closely with industry. The group's webpages can be found at <https://eng.ox.ac.uk/civil/research/>.

Major investments in new research facilities are underway or complete, including the development of a structural testing laboratory, a climate-controlled geotechnical laboratory, and a research-quality wave and current hydraulic flume. Longer term the group plans to move to the **E**ngineering and **T**echnology Innovation **H**ub at **OS**ney (ETHOS) building, currently at an early stage of design, located centrally in Oxford, which will provide bespoke state-of-the-art laboratory and office space for Civil and Offshore Engineering at Oxford. The appointee will likely take a leading role in the planning and development for this proposed new building.

Civil engineering academics contribute to the teaching of core engineering topics in the first two years of the Engineering Science MEng course, and lead in the delivery of the specialised civil engineering options in the third and fourth years.

BRASENOSE COLLEGE



Oxford has 39 self-governing and independent Colleges, enabling academic staff and students to reap the benefits of belonging to a small, interdisciplinary community as well as a large, internationally renowned University. The collegiate system fosters a strong sense of community, bringing together leading academics and students across subjects, and from different cultures and countries.

Brasenose was founded in 1509, making it one of the longest-established members of the collegiate University. Across all years, there are approximately 375 undergraduates and 250 enrolled graduates at Brasenose recruited from increasingly diverse backgrounds. The College's paramount objective is the pursuit of academic excellence and it is concerned to foster research as well as high-quality teaching. 43 Fellows and the Principal comprise the College's Governing Body. Of these, five are Professorial Fellows including four Statutory Chairs in Comparative Law, Civil Engineering, Ancient History, and Molecular Immunology. Members of the Governing Body act as the trustees of the Charity.

As a Professorial Fellow, you will be welcomed into the Brasenose community, and through our various events, and especially over lunch (which is very popular and well-attended), offered the chance to interact with a broad range of other academics across many different disciplines.



The appointment offers scope to become as involved in the social and intellectual life of the College as you wish. Throughout the year, there are also opportunities to invite guests – a hospitality allowance (detailed below) encourages Fellows to do this. The appointee will be elected to a Professorial Fellowship at Brasenose College.

The Fellowship carries full membership of the College's Governing Body, together with membership of the College's Senior Common Room, and full rights at common table (breakfast, lunch and dinner free of charge when the kitchens are open). The Fellow may also be invited to sit on College committees.

Engineering is strongly represented in Brasenose. The College admits up to 6 undergraduates in Engineering each year together with typically 5 graduate students to read for research degrees. The College has three Fellows in Engineering: Professor Harvey Burd, Professor Perla Maiolino, and Professor Ed Walsh.

For more information please visit: www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



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The University of Oxford aims to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society, both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts. Oxford's self-governing community of international scholars includes Professors, Associate Professors, other college tutors, senior and junior research fellows and a large number research staff. Research at Oxford combines disciplinary depth with an increasing focus on interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary activities addressing a rich and diverse range of issues.

Oxford's strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, Oxford aspires to build a community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While Oxford has long traditions of scholarship, it is also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. It consistently has the highest external research income of any university in the UK and regularly creates spinout companies based on academic research generated within and owned by the University. Oxford is also recognised as a leading supporter of social enterprise.



Oxford admits undergraduate students with the intellectual potential to benefit fully from the small group learning to which Oxford is deeply committed. Meeting in small groups with their tutor, undergraduates are exposed to rigorous scholarly challenge and learn to develop their critical thinking, their ability to articulate their views with clarity, and their personal and intellectual confidence. They receive a high level of personal attention from leading academics.



Oxford has a strong postgraduate student body who are attracted to Oxford by the international standing of the faculty, by the rigorous intellectual training on offer, by the excellent research and laboratory facilities available, and by the resources of the museums and libraries, including one of the world's greatest libraries, the Bodleian. More information is available [here](#).



BENEFITS & TERMS AND CONDITIONS



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Standard Duties

(i) to lecture, or hold classes, in at least two of the three university terms and to give at least thirty-six lectures or classes in all and not less than twelve in each of two terms. In the Department of Engineering Science this may be replaced by other teaching, examining or administrative duties requiring similar time commitment, as required by the department; and

(ii) to undertake research and original work and the general supervision of research and advanced work in your subject and department, and to assist students in their studies by advice or informal instruction.

It is expected that professors will generally participate in the business and affairs of the relevant faculty or department.

Competitive Salary

Your salary will be determined after appropriate consultation. There is an annual 'cost-of-living' review. In addition you will be eligible for consideration, in regular reviews, for Professorial Merit Pay.

An additional pensionable allowance will be payable in respect of any period during which you are Head of Department. (Any allowance payable for a period of less than three years will not, however, be pensionable.)

Pension

The University offers generous pension provision. You will be offered membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme. Details are available at <https://finance.admin.ox.ac.uk/uss>.

Sabbatical leave

You will be eligible for sabbatical leave to allow you to focus on your research. In general, one term of leave is available for each six terms worked. This leave may either be taken as one term of leave after 6 terms of service, or accumulated and taken as one year of leave after 6 years of service.

BENEFITS & TERMS AND CONDITIONS



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Consultancy, Intellectual Property and Managing Conflicts of Interest

You may apply to spend up to 30 working days in each year on projects outside your employment duties, such as consultancy, spin-out activity and membership of research councils and other bodies. There is no limit to earnings from these activities without deduction from salary. Details of the approval process may be found at <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/holding-outside-appointments>.

Guidance is also available on:

- ownership of intellectual property <https://governance.admin.ox.ac.uk/legislation/council-regulations-7-of-2002> and;
- managing conflicts of interest <http://researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity>

Relocation and Housing

Subject to UK tax regulations and the availability of funding, a relocation allowance may be available under the University's [relocation scheme](#).

You may be eligible for assistance with housing: some rental accommodation is available for Statutory Professors moving to Oxford for their first year, and there is a Joint Equity Scheme which new Statutory Professors may be entitled to join, to help with the purchase of a home in Oxford. General information about home rental and purchase is available at <https://welcome.ox.ac.uk/housing>.

Please note that you will be required to reside within the University (i.e. within twenty-five miles of Carfax, the central point of Oxford) during at least six months in each academic year, between 1 October and 1 August, and in particular during not less than six weeks of each term.

Promoting Diversity

The University is committed to recruiting and retaining the best people, whoever they are, to ensure equality of opportunity. The Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund provides resources for innovative projects to promote diversity.

The Equality and Diversity Unit promotes good practice across the University by developing policies and offering training, and runs a range of support networks for staff. It works closely with Colleges, the Oxford University Student Union and external campaign groups. Please see <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/home> for details.

BENEFITS & TERMS AND CONDITIONS



Other benefits and discounts for University employees

The University has a range of facilities and benefits for its staff, including discounted health insurance, sustainable travel schemes, and discounts in local shops and restaurants. Details are available at:

Staff Benefits

Discounts

Membership of congregation

Family leave for academic staff

Childcare Services

Oxford University Newcomers Club

Welcome Service

Staff Immigration

Retirement

Job Applicant Privacy Policy

Data Protection Policy

College Benefits

As a Professorial Fellow of Brasenose College you will be entitled to the following benefits:

- Election to a non-stipendiary Professorial Fellow, with Governing Body membership
- A full meal allowance with an entitlement to invite guests (the costs of wine and guests will be chargeable)
- Membership of the Senior Common Room
- An academic budget of £2,260 per annum
- A hospitality budget of £476 per annum

The College has a medical insurance scheme, which Professorial Fellows can participate in at their own expense.