STIPENDIARY LECTURERSHIP IN LAW AT MERTON COLLEGE

FURTHER PARTICULARS

1. GENERAL

Merton College proposes to appoint a full-time Stipendiary Lecturer in Law to teach an average of eight contact hours per week in full term during the academic years 2020-24 (48 months from 1 October 2020) to undergraduates at the College, or to those at other colleges on an exchange basis.

This strictly fixed-term appointment is designed to provide an early-career academic with the opportunity to cover the College’s teaching-needs during the period when Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart is on leave (consequent upon her appointment as Dean of the Faculty of Law) and to undertake research. It will not be renewed after the fourth year. The first year of the post will be probationary.

Merton College is an equal opportunities employer.

Law at Merton

The College currently takes six undergraduates each year to read for Law or Law with Law Studies in Europe. In addition, Merton admits c. four students per year for the BCL/MJur, as well as research postgraduates. Merton has a sizeable and lively graduate community, which includes 14 graduates currently reading for higher degrees in Law, and an active discussion group in Society and Ethics.

Merton has two Tutors in Law, Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart and Professor Jennifer Payne, and currently one Junior Research Fellow in Law, Dr Elizabeth Stubbins Bates.

Information on the Fellows of the College can be found at: www.merton.ox.ac.uk/people.

Criteria for appointment

To be successful, candidates will need show that they meet the following selection criteria:

(i) Essential: to have completed a Master’s level postgraduate qualification in Law (including the Oxford BCL). Desirable: to have completed or to be at an advanced stage towards completing a doctorate in Law in a topic relevant to the teaching range of this post.

(ii) To be willing and able to teach Contract Law and two of (a) Roman Law, (b) the Law of Tort, and (c) Land Law to undergraduates in Law from Merton and other colleges through exchange arrangements. Details of all courses can be found at: www.law.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/ba-jurisprudence.
(iii) To demonstrate the ability to be an effective and inspiring teacher of Law, particularly to undergraduates of high ability in a tutorial system.

(iv) A research-record of a standing appropriate to the stage of the candidate’s career; evidence of potential for producing excellent research in Law; and evidence of the intention to continue research and publication in Law.

(v) To have the potential to discharge competently the full range of academic administrative duties, besides teaching, upon which the effective operation of Law as a subject within the College depends.

(vi) To be able to contribute to the work of the team of academic staff in Law at Merton.

(vii) To be prepared to undertake admissions training if necessary.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LECTURER

The main responsibilities of the Lecturer will be as follows:

(a) To plan and provide tutorial teaching for an average of eight contact hours per week in each week of Full Term in Contract Law and two of (a) Roman Law, (b) the Law of Tort, and (c) Land Law. Details of all courses can be found on the Law Faculty website at www.law.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/ba-jurisprudence.

(b) To engage in advanced study and research in Law for the duration of the appointment.

(c) To share in the organisational responsibility for the undergraduate schools involving Law.

(d) To take on the role of Director of Studies for one year-group of undergraduate Law students.

(e) To provide Introduction Sessions for first-year undergraduates and taught course graduates, and to undertake some of the study skills support for undergraduate students.

(f) To provide support for finalists in Trinity term, including revision tutorials.

(g) To ensure that the students taught receive timely feedback on their work during term, both week by week and in termly reports, and to set and mark internal examinations ('Collections'). Concerns regarding under-performance should be
conveyed to the relevant Director of Studies and in appropriate cases to the Senior Tutor.

(h) To be present, if required, to report on undergraduate performance to the Warden at special meetings (known as Warden’s Collections) which each undergraduate is obliged to attend once a year.

(i) To participate fully in College admissions procedures including reading UCAS forms, marking LNAT essays, interviewing, and recording the evidence used to assess applications and inform selection decisions. The Lecturer will also be expected to contribute to access initiatives and participate in College Open Days.

(j) To undertake academic administration (e.g. the planning and organisation of students’ subject options; the endorsement of applications made by students for travel grants and other College assistance; the writing of references; the selection of books for the College Library etc.), and to attend meetings of the Warden and Tutors’ Committee, if required.

(k) To undertake pastoral responsibilities in liaison with the other Directors of Studies and the College Welfare Team. The Lecturer will receive an entertainment allowance to assist with this. Attendance is strongly encouraged at College events to which Lecturers are invited.

A more detailed guide to tutorial responsibilities and other information, entitled a Handbook for Fellows and Lecturers, will be communicated to the successful candidate by the Senior Tutor following appointment. The Lecturer will be subject to the College Statutes and Bylaws in force from time to time.

3. REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF THE STIPENDIARY LECTURERSHIP

The stipend for the Lecturership will be £40,942 (current rate) and the Lecturer will be also be entitled during the appointment to:

- Enrolment in the Universities Superannuation Scheme.
- Free meals at the Common Table of the Warden and Fellows when the kitchen is open, with certain designated exceptions.
- Membership of the Senior Common Room.
- A research allowance of up to £500 per year.
- A teaching room (although it cannot be guaranteed that this will be for the Lecturer’s exclusive use in the final year of the appointment).

Living accommodation may also be available to the Lecturer (on terms to be agreed with the Finance Bursar).

The appointment will be conditional on verification of the successful candidate’s availability for employment in this country.
4. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND APPOINTMENT

Applications

Those wishing to apply for this post should complete the online application form at www.merton.ox.ac.uk/vacancies and send:

- a brief curriculum vitae;
- a statement of their teaching range and experience in relation to the needs of the College, specified above;
- a statement of current and proposed research, incorporating a publications list.

in electronic format to Lesley.walsh@merton.ox.ac.uk, by 12:00 noon on the closing date of Thursday 21 May 2020.

Applicants should arrange for two referees to write directly to the College by 12:00 noon on Thursday 21 May 2020. References should be sent electronically to lesley.walsh@merton.ox.ac.uk. Hard-copy signed references will be required for the successful candidate.

Applicants are also requested to inform each referee that, under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 and the Data Protection Act 2018, the reference provided may be regarded as disclosable to the subject of the reference unless it is clear that the reference has been given in confidence. The College asks that a reference given in confidence should be marked “strictly confidential” on the letter of reference itself and not just on the envelope in which the letter is contained.

Applicants are encouraged to return the Recruitment Monitoring form (available for download from the College website - www.merton.ox.ac.uk/vacancies).

Interviews will be held on Monday 8 June 2020. Arrangements for interviews will depend upon public health advice and regulations at the time. If it is decided that the interviews can be held at Merton, interview expenses will be reimbursed and overnight accommodation will be available for candidates who require it.

The policy and practice of Merton College require that all staff are afforded equal opportunities within employment. Entry into employment with the College and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Any enquiries related to these Further Particulars should be directed in the first instance to the Senior Tutor (Telephone: 01865 286505; email: senior.tutor@merton.ox.ac.uk).