FURTHER PARTICULARS

1. GENERAL

Merton College proposes to elect a Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow in Global Wellbeing for three years commencing on 1 October 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. The post is a fixed-term, non-renewable College appointment.

The successful candidate will be required to work as an independent researcher, in collaboration with other researchers, in a department within the University of Oxford, on a topic contributing to the solution of the most pressing global welfare problems facing the human race. These problems might be humanitarian, natural or political. The Fellow may also, with the permission of Governing Body, undertake a limited amount of teaching in a relevant department of the University. Successful applicants will normally be required to spend most of their time in Oxford during the tenure of their Fellowship.

2. MERTON COLLEGE

Merton is one of the oldest colleges in Oxford, having recently celebrated its 750th Anniversary Year. Merton has a strong commitment to excellence in research and teaching (see www.merton.ox.ac.uk). Among the Fellows are researchers in Medicine, Economics, Finance, Law, Politics and other relevant fields. Information on the Fellows of Merton and their research interests can be found at www.merton.ox.ac.uk/fellows.

Merton admits undergraduates (c.290) across a range of Humanities, Social Science, and Science subjects. Competition for places is intense. Merton also has a sizeable graduate community (c.310) representing a range of interests and experiences and contributing to a vibrant research environment.

On average, the College has c.15 stipendiary Research Fellows at any one time. In addition, there are up to four non-stipendiary Research Fellows, usually at a later stage in their careers. A number of Merton Fellows and graduates take part in the College’s interdisciplinary discussion groups, more details of which can be found at www.merton.ox.ac.uk/research.

One Governing Body Fellow serves as Research Convener and a number of research talks are scheduled throughout the year. Merton fosters international collaboration through an active Visiting Researcher scheme including provision of accommodation for scholars.

The TS Eliot Lecture Theatre provides a first-rate setting for academic events.
3. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PETER J. BRAAM JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

**Research Responsibilities**

The aim of the Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellowship is to provide an opportunity for the holder to devote a substantial proportion of his or her time to producing high-quality independent research. The successful candidate will be required to:

(i) Undertake independent research on a topic contributing to the solution of the most pressing global welfare problems facing the human race. These problems might be humanitarian, natural and/or political.

(ii) Contribute to the wider academic research projects in the University in the field of their research;

(iii) Submit a report to the Research Committee of the College on his or her research activities in June of each year.

**College Responsibilities**

The main responsibilities of the Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow will be as follows:

(i) To perform the duties of a member of the Governing Body of Merton College. The College is a registered charity; members of the Governing Body are its trustees and must conduct its business in accordance with current UK charity law.

(ii) To participate fully in the life of the College. Attendance is strongly encouraged at College events such as the Matriculation dinners (for fresher undergraduates and graduates), Postmasters’ Dinner (a dinner for scholar and exhibitioner undergraduates), the Shrove Tuesday Dinner (a dinner for undergraduate finalists) and the MCR dinner (a dinner for second year graduates).

(iii) The Fellow may also, with the permission of Governing Body, undertake a limited amount of teaching in a relevant department of the university.

A more detailed guide to these responsibilities will be communicated to the successful candidate by the Sub-Warden following election as a Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow.

4. **CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT**

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

(i) An excellent academic record;
High achievement, commensurate with the candidate’s career level, in a relevant field of research, as demonstrated by a completed doctoral thesis and/or published or forthcoming books, or articles in refereed journals, as appropriate to the candidate’s field;

The ability to present research findings effectively to fellow professionals at national and international conferences or in professional research seminars;

Demonstration of a coherent plan of research for the duration of the Fellowship which promises to make a valuable contribution to the candidate’s field and to have potential for practical application in the solution of societal problems;

Willingness to undertake the wider duties and obligations of a Fellow of the College, as set out in Section 3 above.

Candidates will not normally be considered who on 1 October 2018 will have accumulated more than eight years of full-time post-graduate study or research, excluding periods of professional training or preparation for a second undergraduate degree. A candidate who feels that there are special factors that should be brought to the College’s attention should state them briefly in the application.

5. REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF THE JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The stipend for the Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow will be £22,494 p.a. (current rates). This figure will normally be adjusted if the Fellow is in receipt of other emoluments.

(a) The following conditions will apply:

(i) The Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow will have the right to free meals at the Common Table of the College when the kitchen is open;

(ii) If the Fellow wishes to live in College, he or she may be provided with single accommodation free of rent, subject to availability. Accommodation may be available only in a flat, for which the occupant would be responsible for utility bills and council tax charges. Depending on availability, the College may be able to offer accommodation for partners without children;

(iii) If the Fellow does not wish to live in College, he or she will receive a household allowance of £10,000 p.a.;

(iv) The Fellow will be auto-enrolled in the Universities Superannuation Scheme, with the possibility of opting out;

(v) The College insures Fellows, their co-habiting partners, and dependent children under the age of 21, with a private Medical Insurance company free of charge (the premium is assessable as a taxable benefit);
(vi) There is a possibility of grants for qualifying research expenses from the Research Fund of up to £3,000 p.a.;

(vii) The College provides for sick leave and family related leave on the same basis as the University of Oxford, taking into account the fixed term nature and particular circumstances of the employment;

(viii) The Fellow will not be eligible for sabbatical leave;

(ix) The appointment will be for three years. A notice period of one Full Term will be required should the postholder wish to resign the Fellowship at an earlier point.

The appointment is conditional on verification of the successful candidate’s availability for employment in this country.

(b) Sundry other information concerning both academic facilities and domestic arrangements in the College (e.g. ordinary meals and College official feasts, use of the College key, Senior Common Room and Guest Room facilities, use of parking, telephones and photocopying, etc.) will be communicated to the successful candidate following election as the Peter J. Braam Junior Research Fellow.

6. 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/about-merton/vacancies and upload:

- a brief curriculum vitae incorporating a publications list and stating the titles of two short pieces of written work which they would submit in support of their application if shortlisted

- a research proposal, not exceeding 1,500 words, for the three years covered by the Research Fellowship.

- Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form. The information collected on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form does not form part of the selection process and will not be circulated to the selection panel. It will be used solely to monitor the effectiveness of the College’s Equality Policy which is published at www.merton.ox.ac.uk/about/college-policies.

Applicants should arrange for three referees to write directly to the Warden of Merton by 12:00 noon on the closing date of Friday 27 July 2018.

References should be sent electronically to anne.ploin@merton.ox.ac.uk. Hard copy signed references will be required for the successful candidate.

Applicants are also requested to inform their referees that, under the 1998 Data Protection Act, the references they provide will be regarded as disclosable to the subject of the reference unless marked “strictly confidential”. This instruction must appear on the letter of reference itself and not just on the envelope in which the letter is contained. Referees should also be asked to note that even where a reference is marked “strictly confidential” it could still
be disclosed to the subject of the reference if that subject so requested and the College’s Data Protection Officer deemed it appropriate.

Short listed candidates will be invited to submit written work samples in advance of interview and will be required to make contact with a relevant department or faculty of the University to demonstrate synergy between their project and the existing research interests of the department.

It is anticipated that interviews will be held at Merton during the first week of September 2018. Reasonable 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.

7. **RIGHT TO WORK IN THE UK**

Applicants who would need a work visa if appointed to the post are asked to note that under the UK’s points-based migration system they will need to demonstrate that they have sufficient points, and in particular that:

(i) they have sufficient English language skills (evidenced by having passed a test in basic English, or coming from a majority English-speaking country, or having taken a degree taught in English), and

(ii) that they have sufficient funds to maintain themselves and any dependents until they receive their first salary payment.

Further information is available at [www.gov.uk/tier-2-general/overview](http://www.gov.uk/tier-2-general/overview)

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

**Merton College is an equal opportunities employer**