



Questions and Answers

OxRSS provides Oxford research staff with a voice and networking opportunities

HOW DO YOU GET A COLLEGE AFFILIATION?

The University of Oxford has no central, uniform policy on including researchers in college life, reflecting the devolved nature of the university. If you are interested in a college affiliation, the opportunities are out there, though you will probably have to be proactive! Even if you do not have a formal link with a college, numerous research centres, guest lectures, workshops, and seminars are held in colleges. These events are open to anyone to attend whether they are a member of the college or not.

You can seek college affiliation in several ways:

1. Junior Research Fellowships

These fellowships and other college roles (such as research membership of Common Room or non-stipendiary research fellowships) are advertised [here](#). Colleges also post opportunities on their own websites and in the [Oxford Gazette](#).

2. Nomination from college member

Speak to your manager, supervisor, or another colleague who already holds a college affiliation. Many colleges accept proposals from existing members for new members, and they may be willing to put you forward.

3. College tutoring

The level of responsibilities, benefits, and duration of these positions are at the discretion of the college. Again, it is helpful if senior members of your department support your application to be a college tutor at their own colleges. You could also approach the Senior Tutor in the college saying what teaching you would be able to offer. A key focus for OxRSS is to increase teaching opportunities for research staff, and we will provide more information on this in future newsletters.

4. Senior Common Room (SCR) memberships

Research staff can apply for membership of the SCR in a college with the support of a Fellow of the college. The nomination process is dependent on the college and may take some time. An annual fee may be requested and members may have to pay for their own meals, but can enjoy other benefits.

5. Associate Membership of Middle Common Room (MCR)

This is relatively easy to obtain with the support of your line manager and requires a fee. Some researchers prefer to become a member of the SCR as they share more in common with SCR members.

OxRSS has begun organising college dinners to give researchers a taste of college benefits, not the least of which is the opportunity to meet others working in different subjects and fields across the University.

