

College Adviser Scheme

Each graduate student is allocated a senior member of the College as a College Adviser (this is in addition to the graduate student's supervisor, appointed by the University, who is responsible for directing the academic work of the student). The College Adviser is available as a source of help and advice, and should be in a position to discuss your academic progress. This does not mean that the student and adviser will necessarily be members of the same department or faculty. The College Adviser is not in any way intended to replace the University supervisor, or to act in his or her stead and should, therefore, not be expected to give the same detailed academic guidance and direction. Your College Adviser cannot also be your University supervisor, therefore if your Supervisor has inadvertently been assigned to you as your College Adviser, please let the Academic Office know immediately. The intention is that College Advisers should provide a focal point for an individual student's relationship with the College, which includes an academic component.

COLLEGE ADVISERS ROLE

The College Adviser is expected to monitor a student's progress, to discuss the University supervisor's reports, and to be available for regular consultation on academic or other matters, including those issues that a student may feel unable to raise with his/her supervisor. Advisers should, as appropriate, comment positively on students' progress, and achievements; they are not only there to pick up problems. The Adviser may wish to consult with the Senior Tutor about any student who appears to be experiencing difficulties with their academic work, or direct students to other appropriate persons for assistance with non-academic related difficulties.

COLLEGE ADVISEES: PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

College advisees should respond to invitations from their Advisers to meet them; if the proposed time is not suitable they should contact their Adviser to arrange an alternative time to meet. They should not hesitate (or feel in any way inhibited) to contact their College Advisers outside their regular meetings and should feel free to consult other College officers as necessary, including the Senior Tutor or the Academic Registrar. College advisees should be aware that the College Adviser is not expected to perform the academic role of the University supervisor. However, depending on their College Adviser's field of expertise, and intellectual interests, advisees may seek academic advice from the Adviser. In addition, advisees should feel free to seek advice from the College Adviser on academic-related matters including applications for research funding, conferences and seminar attendance, publication and career plans etc. It is particularly important that advisees should consult their College Adviser if they experience any difficulty with their University supervisor. Any matters concerning examination procedures may be discussed with the College Adviser; if students wish to raise them formally they should do so with the Senior Tutor or Academic Registrar.

Students can speak with the Academic Office if they would like to request a change of adviser; similarly advisers may ask for another fellow to take over one of their students.

For students who would rather approach another student in times of need, Wolfson also has Student Welfare Officers and Peer Supporters. Contact details are available at <https://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/talk>.