INFORMATION ABOUT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AT WOLFSON

Students at Wolfson may participate in the College decision-making process to an extent that is almost unknown at other colleges in the University. By being on a committee, taking an hour or less twice a term, you can make a valuable and significant contribution to the way that the College functions and get to know the people that make Wolfson what it is.

The benefits to you of joining a committee include:

- Direct influence on the strategic, but also the more day-to-day decisions that influence College governance.
- Getting to know the people who run the various facets of College life
- An intimate knowledge of the way Wolfson works: from the College accounts, the library's activities to the funding and organisation of the many social and cultural events in College by serving on the Finance, Academic or Social & Cultural Committee.
- Experience in problem-solving, collaborative decision-making and committee diplomacy
- Evidence on your CV (resumé) of the above
- Various perks: from cakes to dinners, depending on the committee!

The benefits to the College of having you on a committee include:

- New faces to add dynamism and new ideas to well-established procedures
- Keeping College policies up-to-date with student/Research Fellow/Junior Research Fellow perspectives and needs
- Contributing and helping to implement new thoughts to make the College an even better community!
- Enabling fellows and students to get to know one another (especially on the Governing Body)
Elections to Committees are held each Hilary Term, a process for most committees overseen by the Nominating Committee, and committees will serve Trinity to Hilary. Nomination forms will be available on the web to download in December and should be returned to the College Secretary by a given date in January.

After the Nominating Committee meeting has been held, you will be notified by a general, not individual e-mail of the committee(s) to which you have been elected. This general e-mail is sent to all Members of Common Room (MCR) and College members. If you nominate yourself for a committee, it is expected that you are willing and able to attend all six meetings over the coming year. You won’t be ejected from a committee for failing to attend, but do send apologies to its Secretary if you find you cannot make one of the meetings for an important reason.

Please note that if there are more candidates than places on the Nominating Committee, the General Purposes Committee or Governing Body, then College-wide elections will be held. Ballot papers will be available in the Lodge and we are hoping to implement a new online voting system for the first time this coming NC exercise during HT 2016. Further details with dates will be available on-line in December.

Committees to which graduate students are elected:

1 **Governing Body (GB)** is composed of 60 Fellows and six elected junior members (of whom at least four are graduate students and at least one Supernumerary (SF), Research (RF) or Junior Research (JRF). Once these six members are elected, the Chair of the General Meeting is elected to serve for one year (normally the Chair of GM is an elected member of GB). By the time an item of business reaches the Governing Body, it has already been discussed by previous meetings of various committees and the item may only need to be reported and approved, although this is not always the case. GB Fellows are also the legal trustees of the College - elected members do not share this status but do have a voice equal to that of the Fellows in GB meetings.

2 **General Purposes Committee (GPC)** prepares the agenda for the subsequent Governing Body meeting, and in doing so acts as a powerful executive committee of the College. Chaired by the President, it is composed of College officers, elected fellows, four elected junior members (including at least two graduate students and one SF, RF or JRF) and the chairs of the General Meeting and the Social and Cultural Committee. Up to 3 members could therefore be graduate students.

3 **Nominating Committee** meets annually in Hilary Term to suggest committee memberships based on the nominations it receives.
Other committees for which graduate students may nominate themselves:

1. **Social and Cultural Committee (SCC)** allocates and approves money for all the College’s clubs, societies and social functions. Its sub-committees, listed below, encompass most of the life of the Wolfson Community. Provided you can draw up a credible budget and a good case for expenditure, practically any worthy endeavor can be supported by the Common Room Fund, which is overseen by the Social and Cultural Committee. **SCC’s Sub-committees are: Ball, Bar Committee (BarCo), Entertainments (“Entz”), Arts, Music, Romulus, Sports, Families.**

2. **Academic Committee (AC)** is concerned with all academic matters in which the College may have an interest, for example: proposals for lectures, seminars and conferences; College Library and Archives policy; and College admissions policy. This Committee is also very important for developing Wolfson’s strategy to develop its ‘destination college’ status.

3. **Domestic and Premises Committee (DPC)** considers the physical aspects of the College, including accommodation, safety in College, building works, renovations and development projects. Chaired by the Bursar, the fruits of this committee’s labors are usually very visible and long-lasting, and are often also quickly implemented. **DPC’s Sub-committees are: Grounds, Catering, Wine, Nursery.**

4. **Finance Committee (FC)** oversees in outline College expenditure, income and investments.

5. **Information Technology Committee (IT)** discusses all aspects of the College IT facilities, such as computers, printing and network connections. A representative from this committee reports to the General Meeting.

6. **Equality and Welfare Committee (EWC)** meets termly to oversee equality as well as welfare issues and policy.

Committees on which graduate students are **not** represented:

1. **Audit Committee (AudC)**
Reports to the Governing Body via GPC. This committee supervises internal audit in the College.

2. **Fellowships and Memberships Committee (FMC)**
Recommends College appointments and membership, e.g. of fellows and members of Common Room.