

RESEARCH DIRECTOR

Job Description

Reporting to:	Director
Salary:	£40,522 to £57,696 FTE (pro rata) per annum depending on qualifications and experience
Hours:	0.6 FTE (22.5 hours per week), in the first instance
Contract:	Three years in the first instance (subject to 6-month probation period), renewable subject to funding
Holiday entitlement:	25 days annual leave plus 8 public holidays (pro rata)
Location:	Faraday Institute, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0UB

Who we are:

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion is a Cambridge-based interdisciplinary research institute improving public understanding of science and religion. Its main focus is on the relationship between science and the Christian faith, but it also engages with those of any faith or none.

Job Description:

The Research Director is responsible for all aspects of the Institute's Research activities, to deliver The Faraday Institute's ongoing research mission "to shed new light on life's big questions through academically rigorous research in the field of science and religion". This is a key leadership role in the Institute and requires an individual who is well connected in the academic community and recognized for expertise in their own field, with experience of managing researchers, applying for research grants and navigating the processes of major funding organisations. They will be comfortable interacting with scientists, philosophers and theologians at all levels and across diverse academic disciplines, and proactive in their engagement with a wide network of researchers and organisations globally. The Research Director will also be expected to establish a funded science and faith research programme in their own academic field, as part of the Institute's portfolio of research.

The applicant must be in agreement with the Christian ethos and aims of The Faraday Institute and will be a member of the Institute's Strategic Leadership Team. The role is based in Cambridge, UK. Days/hours are negotiable. Preferred start date is 4 September 2023 but an alternative start date can be considered.

Scope of role:

- Develop and promote the Institute's research strategy, to deliver outcomes that enhance public understanding of science and religion, and to apply Christian faith perspectives to science and technology research on issues of relevance to contemporary society
- Build relationships with external organisations to promote and enhance the international reputation and profile of the Institute

- Horizon scanning to identify new areas of science and religion research, drawing on the Faraday's network, Associates and International Advisory Board
- Build and maintain a portfolio of science and faith research projects, working with academic experts in relevant fields to identify researchers, PIs and collaborators
- Lead the process of applying for grants for projects, supporting individual PIs through the process of creating strong applications in accordance with required timetables
- Establish own science and faith funded research project as PI (in which case post can potentially be expanded to full-time)
- Maintain strong relationships with grant making bodies and keep up to date with new opportunities and initiatives
- Plan and manage to a financial budget, ensuring that research projects are structured to achieve income targets, to support financial sustainability
- Oversee the quality of research output and ensure, in collaboration with other staff, that dissemination impact is achieved in line with the Institute's mission and project grant requirements
- Line manage post-doctoral research staff on projects, including regular 1:1 mentoring, to review progress and support career development
- Lead regular meetings of research staff and build a research community in Cambridge
- Prepare annual research newsletters and research reports for Trustees
- Propose speakers for Faraday research seminars and termly lectures
- Occasional international travel may be required

Desirable qualifications and experience:

- A PhD is essential, preferably in a scientific field
- Solid grounding in Christian theology
- Significant experience at a senior level in an academic research organisation
- Delivery of successful outcomes from multi-year thematic research programmes
- Fellowship of a subject specific society and/or visiting or affiliate appointment at a leading international university
- A strong track record of publications and recognized credibility in their field
- Respected in the science and faith research community
- Well-developed understanding of the priorities, operation and strategy of relevant funding bodies as evidenced by a track record of funded research
- Proven experience of managing staff and their performance and development

Personal qualities:

- Leadership style that encourages a positive collaborative culture
- Self-starter, with drive and determination to achieve targets and impact
- Ability to identify and articulate a coherent strategy and plan for Research
- Ability to engage with diverse internal and external stakeholders to lead problem solving, within agreed timetables and budgets
- A natural networker able to develop and build new and existing collaborations
- Curiosity to engage with research topics outside their own field of expertise
- Excellent interpersonal and written communication skills

Applications to be sent to admin@faraday.cam.ac.uk and should include a CV naming at least two referees, together with a covering letter summarising the relevance of the applicant's background and experience for this position. Candidates must have the right to work in the United Kingdom. For queries, contact admin@faraday.cam.ac.uk. Applications will be accepted until **13th August 2023**.

www.faraday.cam.ac.uk

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The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion is a registered charity, number 1153702