

Paper D1

Governors of Westminster College, Cambridge

Appointment of Tutor in
Old Testament Language,
Literature and Theology

United Church 2016
Church 2016
Reformed Church 2016
Church 2016



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Governors of Westminster College, Cambridge

Appointment of Tutor in Old Testament Language, Literature and Theology

Basic Information

Contact name and email address	The Revd Neil Thorogood nrt26@cam.ac.uk
Action required	To note the appointment of a new tutor at Westminster College
Draft resolution(s)	None

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Informing Mission Council that due process has been completed
Main points	A successful process of advertising, shortlisting and interview has resulted in an appointment to the post that will become vacant upon the retirement in summer, 2016, of the Revd Dr Janet Tollington
Previous relevant documents	Governance of Westminster College, General Assembly Record, 1996, Appendix 1, College Appointments Committee, 2.2.4.2, page 14.
Consultation has taken place with...	All relevant parties: Education and Learning Committee; URC Human Resources; Cambridge Theological Federation; University of Cambridge Divinity Faculty; Westminster staff and students

Summary of Impact

Financial	Salary as agreed for a lay post-holder
External (e.g. ecumenical)	This post will operate, as for the current post-holder, in the fully ecumenical setting of teaching and learning within the Cambridge Theological Federation and more widely.

Appointment process

1. After more than 20 years in post as Tutor in Old Testament at Westminster College, the Revd Dr Janet Tollington is due to retire in the summer of 2016. Whilst we will do much to mark that moment the governors moved to fill the vacancy as soon as possible, eager to avoid a gap in provision of core biblical teaching at Westminster. An appointment committee, chaired by the Revd Nigel Uden, convenor of Westminster's Board of Governors, was established. This included representatives of the college teaching staff (the Principal), a representative of Westminster's students, a representative of the biblical teachers of the Cambridge Theological Federation, a representative of the Divinity Faculty of the University of Cambridge, the Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources) and the Secretary for Education and Learning.
2. The post was advertised widely during October 2015, and a total of 29 applications were received. Long-listing and short-listing created invitations to three candidates to attend Westminster in early December. All three candidates had opportunities to see round the college, meet key administrative staff, talk informally with students and have a meal with other members of the college teaching staff. Each candidate presented teaching material to the entire appointment committee and a number of students, and participated in two interviews with two sets of four members of the appointments committee. The entire committee then met to discuss the outcome.
3. A unanimous decision was taken to appoint Dr Alison Gray, currently on the teaching staff of Westcott House, one of the Anglican training institutions within the Cambridge Theological Federation. Dr Gray brings a background in the United Reformed Church, a very strong academic portfolio, rich experience of ministerial formation and tutorial work, and a passion for sharing the Old Testament with diverse groups beyond the academy. Westminster is delighted that Dr Gray has accepted this appointment.

