

Academic Dean

Full-time position. Salary: £50K-£52K.

Start date: Sep/Oct 2026.

The [Oxford Centre for Mission Studies \(OCMS\)](#) is looking for a new **Academic Dean**. The key attributes we are looking for are:

- Organisational leadership, management and team development skills in an academic setting
- Academic excellence and relevant research experience
- Strategic orientation and the ability to grow the PhD and guided research programmes
- An ability to invest in other faculty and support their professional development
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills – both internally and externally
- Cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity
- Ability to provide spiritual leadership

Part of being on the staff team is a commitment to contribute to the spiritual community of OCMS. As part of the leadership team, this role also requires that you can provide spiritual leadership to your team and beyond. Therefore, it is an occupational requirement that you are a practising Christian.

If you feel that God may be calling you to this position, you can find further information and how to apply at www.ocms.ac.uk/jobs or by emailing jobs@ocms.ac.uk.

The closing date for applications is **17 July 2026**, with interviews in late July.

General Background

OCMS is a spiritual, missional and academic community called to serve the Body of Christ globally. It is an independent Christian charity, based in Oxford, England. Established in 1983, it has enabled church leaders, mission and development professionals, and global Christian scholars to understand more clearly how to bring the transforming nature of their faith to change the lives of those they serve. The PhD level research is central to the organisation and is mostly done by scholars on a part-time basis linked to Middlesex University (OCMS is currently in the process of being revalidated by MU). However, writing and publishing, cutting-edge mission consultations, executive mission leadership development, research consultancies and individual guided research are all carried out at OCMS with the goal of building reflective practitioners equipped to serve the church as it participates in God's whole-life mission.

International in its leadership, fully interdenominational in its reach, and deeply evangelical from its roots to its mission, OCMS brings together members of the worldwide church under one roof to research, reflect and respond to challenges faced across cultures and in the varying economic, social and political contexts in which Christians worship and witness.

OCMS seeks to bring research and scholarship to the practice of mission. As a result of research done here, girls who have had little or no schooling in Burkina Faso can anticipate achieving literacy; a government has improved their response to the challenges of HIV/AIDS; culturally and religiously sensitive peace and reconciliation programmes have been developed to bring healing to war-torn parts of the world and those who are poor and disempowered are more able to make decisions of their own.

From our international mission-professional gatherings, bright initiatives in mission have been fostered leading to new, strong policies that favour the Global South, and Christians from the South have published books bringing their unique perspectives on scripture to a wide audience, opening the eyes of followers of Jesus around the world.

Since its inception in 1983, over 165 Christian leaders from around the world have completed PhD's at OCMS and the overwhelming majority have continued to work in their own mission context, further equipped to carry Christ's message of love and reconciliation to a broken world.

In 2008, John Stott wrote "The Oxford Centre for Mission Studies is an organisation with which I have been involved since its inception in 1983, and I have watched its development with great satisfaction. I am delighted to have this opportunity to commend its work to you for your prayerful and financial support. It is the conviction of OCMS, which I share, that during this century many of the influential leaders in the church will come from the Global South. The ongoing work of OCMS in preparing many of them for leadership, through its postgraduate and research programmes will be a key part in this process."

For further details about OCMS see www.ocms.ac.uk.