

Embargoed until 10.00 (BST) Wednesday 27 May 2026

Exceptional scientists elected as Fellows of the Royal Society

Over 90 outstanding researchers from across the world have this year been elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society, the UK's national academy of sciences.

This year's cohort includes pioneers and leaders across a range of scientific fields, from astronomy and cancer research to mathematics and biotechnology. Among the newly elected fellows and foreign members are a palaeontologist who has named more dinosaur species than any other living person; a biologist who has developed the field of 'oncofertility' that helps cancer patients who are receiving life-preserving but fertility-threatening treatments to have a family; and a physicist who established quantum technology as a research focus at Toshiba, expanding the company's UK R&D team with substantial funding, and launched a world-leading commercial division.

Sir Paul Nurse, President of the Royal Society, said:

"I am delighted to welcome this newest group of exceptional scientists to the Fellowship of the Royal Society.

"Their contributions reflect the highest standards of scientific endeavour. Whether advancing our understanding of vaccines or exploring the transformative potential of mathematics and computation, their work exemplifies the enduring value of curiosity, creativity and rigorous inquiry.

"Our Fellowship is strengthened not only by individual distinction, but by the diversity of perspectives and experiences its members bring. This incoming cohort highlights the truly international character of contemporary science and underscores the vital role that plays in achieving breakthroughs that benefit us all."

The Fellows and Foreign Members join the ranks of Stephen Hawking, Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein, Lise Meitner, Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar and Dorothy Hodgkin.

- 26% of this year's intake of Fellows, Foreign Members and Honorary Fellows are women.
- The new fellows have been elected from 20 institutions across the UK, including University of Lancaster, University of Southampton and BirdLife International.
- They have also been elected from countries across the world, including Kenya, Japan, Mexico.

The full list of the newly elected Fellows of the Royal Society is, in alphabetical order:

Fellowship

Professor Manindra Agrawal FRS

Director, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India

Professor Dwight Barkley FRS

Professor of Mathematics, Mathematics Institute, University of Warwick

Professor Facundo Batista FRS

Scientific and Associate Director, Ragon Institute of Mass General Brigham, MIT, and Harvard, Phillip T. and Susan M. Ragon Professor, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Faculty Member, Department of Immunology, Harvard Medical School, USA

Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon FRS

Nicolaas Kuiper Honorary Professor, Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques, France

Professor Chris Bowler FRS

Director of Research (exceptional class), CNRS and Head of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Institut de Biologie de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure (IBENS), France

Professor Francis Brown FRS

Professor of Mathematics, Mathematical Institute and Senior Research Fellow, All Souls College, University of Oxford

Dr Stuart Butchart FRS

Chief Scientist, BirdLife International

Professor Frank Calegari FRS

Professor, Department of Mathematics, University of Chicago, USA

Professor Xiaofeng Cao FRS

Project Leader and Director of the Academic Committee, Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology (IGDB), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China

Professor David Catling FRS

Professor, Department of Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Professor Garnet Chan FRS

Bren Professor of Chemistry and Director, Marcus Center for Theoretical Chemistry, California Institute of Technology, USA

Professor Mark Chaplain FRS

Gregory Chair of Applied Mathematics, Mathematical Institute, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of St Andrews

Professor Qingyan Chen FRS

Chair Professor and Global STEM Professor, Department of Building Environment and Energy, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong and Emeritus Professor, Purdue University, USA

Professor Simon Cherry FRS

Professor of Total-Body Imaging, School of Biomedical Engineering and Imaging Sciences, King's College London and Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Radiology, University of California, Davis, USA

Professor Lars Chittka FRS

Professor of Sensory and Behavioural Ecology, School of Biological and Behavioural Sciences, Queen Mary University of London

Professor Tim Coulson FRS

Statutory Professor of Zoology, Department of Biology, University of Oxford

Professor Yang Dan FRS

Director and Senior investigator, Institute of Neuromodulation and Cognition, Shenzhen Medical Academy of Research and Translation (SMART), China

Professor Anuj Dawar FRS

Professor of Logic and Algorithms, Department of Computer Science and Technology, University of Cambridge

Professor Charlotte Deane MBE FRS

Professor Structural Bioinformatics, Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, Fellow of St Annes and College Oxford and Executive Chair, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

Professor Inderjeet Dokal FMedSci FRS

Emeritus Professor and Honorary Consultant in Haematology, Queen Mary University of London and Barts Health NHS Trust

Professor Michael Elowitz FRS

Roscoe Gilkey Dickinson Professor, Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, Caltech and Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USA

Professor Joseph Felsenstein FRS

Professor Emeritus, Department of Genome Sciences and Department of Biology, University of Washington, USA

Professor Elizabeth Fisher FMedSci FRS

Professor of Neurogenetics, Department of Neuromuscular Diseases, UCL Institute of Neurology, University College London

Professor Stephen Forrest FRS

Peter A. Franken Distinguished University Professor of Electrical Engineering, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Physics and Materials Science and Engineering, University of Michigan, USA

Professor Jeff Forshaw FRS

Professor of Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manchester

Professor Piers Forster FRS

Professor of Climate Physics, Priestley Centre for Climate Futures and School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds

Professor Simon Foster FMedSci FRS

West Riding Professor of Microbiology, The Florey Institute, School of Biosciences, University of Sheffield

Professor Hayley Fowler FRS

Professor of Climate Change Impacts, School of Engineering, and Director of the Centre for Climate and Environmental Resilience, Newcastle University

Professor Beverley Glover FRS

Director, Cambridge University Botanic Garden and Professor of Plant Systematics and Evolution, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge

Professor Leslie-Ann Goldberg FRS

Professor of Computer Science, Department of Computer Science, University of Oxford

Professor Ramin Golestanian FRS

Director, Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization (MPI-DS), Göttingen, Germany and Professor of Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics, Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford

Professor Nicholas Graham FRS

Distinguished Professor, Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University

Dr Glenda Gray FRS

Distinguished Professor and Executive Director, Infectious Disease and Oncology Research Institute,

Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Witwatersrand, Chief Scientific Officer and Past President/CEO, South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) and Professor, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, USA

Professor Luis Herrera-Estrella FRS

Emeritus Professor, Center for Research and Advanced Studies (CINVESTAV), National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico and Professor, Plant and Soil Science Department, Texas Tech University, USA

Professor Masud Husain FMedSci FRS

Professor of Neurology and Cognitive Neuroscience, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience and Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford

Professor David Jackson FRS

Professor, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, USA

Dr Jan-Theodoor Janssen FRS

Chief Scientist, National Physical Laboratory

Professor Segenet Kelemu FRS

Executive Director, Pan Africa Programs, Master Card Foundation

Professor Srinivasan Keshav FRS

Robert Sansom Professor, Department of Computer Science and Technology, University of Cambridge

Professor Young-Kee Kim FRS

Albert A. Michelson Distinguished Service Professor of Physics, Department of Physics and Enrico Fermi Institute, The University of Chicago, USA

Professor Colin Kleanthous FMedSci FRS

Emeritus Iveagh Professor of Microbial Biochemistry, Department of Biochemistry, University of Oxford

Professor Robert Klose FRS

Professor of Genetics, Department of Biochemistry and Keble College, University of Oxford

Professor Bostjan Kobe FRS

Professor, School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, University of Queensland, Australia

Professor J. Michael Kosterlitz FRS

Harrison E Farnsworth Professor of Physics, Department of Physics, Brown University, USA

Dr Jean Langhorne FRS

Principal Group Leader and Director of the Crick Africa Network, Francis Crick Institute

Professor Gilles Laurent FRS

Director, Max Planck Institute for Brain Research, Max Planck Society, Germany

Professor Simon Levin FRS

James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, USA

Professor Ruth Ley FRS

Director, Department of Microbiome Science, Max Planck Institute for Biology Tübingen, Germany

Professor Can Li FRS

Director, Solar Energy Center, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Professor Douglas Lin FRS

Emeritus Professor, Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

Professor Jitendra Malik FRS

Arthur J. Chick Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Professor Walter Marcotti FRS

Professor of Sensory Neuroscience, School of Biosciences, University of Sheffield

Professor Debora Marks FRS

Professor, Department of Systems Biology, Blavatnik Institute at Harvard Medical School; Associate Faculty, The Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT; and Affiliate Faculty, Kempner Institute of Harvard, USA

Professor Roberto Mayor FMedSci FRS

Professor of Developmental and Cellular Neurobiology, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, University College London

Professor Alex McBratney AM FRS

Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow & Professor of Digital Agriculture and Soil Science, Sydney Institute of Agriculture & School of Life and Environmental Sciences, The University of Sydney, Australia

Dr John McCafferty FRS

Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Maxion Therapeutics and Affiliated Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge

Professor Ashley Moffett CMG FMedSci FRS

Emeritus Professor of Reproductive Immunology, Department of Pathology, University of Cambridge

Professor Robert Morris FRS

Full Professor, Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada (IMPA), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Professor Thomas Mrsic-Flogel FRS

Director, Sainsbury Wellcome Centre for Neural Circuits and Behaviour, London and Professor in Neuroscience, University College London

Professor Alberto C. Naveira Garabato FRS

Regius Professor of Ocean Sciences, Ocean and Earth Science, University of Southampton

Professor Chris Parkes FRS

Professor of Experimental Particle Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manchester

Professor Uta Paszkowski FRS

Professor of Plant Molecular Genetics, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge

Dr David Rees FMedSci FRS

Formerly Chief Scientific Officer, Astex Pharmaceuticals

Professor Jonathan Reid FRS

Professor of Physical Chemistry, School of Chemistry, University of Bristol

Professor Paul Riley FMedSci FRS

British Heart Foundation Professor of Regenerative Medicine, Chair of Development and Cell Biology,

Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics and Director, Institute of Developmental and Regenerative Medicine, University of Oxford

Professor Barbara Romanowicz FRS

Professor of Geophysics in the Graduate School, University of California, Berkeley, USA and Professeur Honoraire (Emeritus), Collège de France

Dr John Rubinstein FRS

Senior Scientist, Molecular Medicine Program, Hospital for Sick Children and Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Department of Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto, Canada

Professor Malcolm Sambridge FRS

Emeritus Professor, Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National University, Australia

Dr Gordon Sanghera FRS

Founder and Tech Innovation Advisor

Professor Bernhard Scholkopf FRS

Scientific Director, ELLIS Institute Tübingen & Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Germany, and Professor, ETH Zürich, Switzerland

Professor Melina Schuh FRS

Director, Department of Meiosis, Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences, Germany

Hon. Professor Brenda Schulman FRS

Director and Scientific Member, Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Germany

Professor Zhi-Xun Shen FRS

The Paul Pigott Professor of Physical Sciences, Professor of Applied Physics and of Physics, Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences, and Senior Fellow, Precourt Institute for Energy, in the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, Stanford University, USA

Dr Andrew Shields FEng FRS

Vice-President, Toshiba Europe Ltd

Professor Malcolm Smith FEng FRS

Professor of Control Engineering, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge

Professor Sami Solanki FRS

Director, Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research, Germany

Dr Guy L. Steele Jr FRS

Former Software Architect, Oracle Labs, USA

Professor Hiroaki Suga FRS

Professor, Department of Chemistry, The University of Tokyo, Japan

Dr Soumya Swaminathan FRS

Chairperson, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, India

Professor Elly Tanaka FRS

Director, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Austrian Academy of Sciences and Vienna BioCenter, Austria

Professor F. Dean Toste FRS

Chair and Joel H. Hildebrand Distinguished Professor and Gerald E. K. Branch Distinguished Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Professor Neil Turok FRS

Higgs Chair of Theoretical Physics, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh

Professor Raquel Urtasun FRS

Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto, Canada

Dr Michael Way FRS

Principal Group Leader, Francis Crick Institute and Professor of Virology, Department of Infectious Disease, Imperial College London

Professor Stuart West FRS

Professor of Evolutionary Biology, Department of Biology, University of Oxford

Professor Baroness Katherine Willis CBE FRS

Professor of Biodiversity, Department of Biology, University of Oxford and Crossbench Peer, House of Lords

Professor Teresa K. Woodruff FRS

President Emerita and MSU Research Foundation Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University, USA

Professor Michael Wooldridge FRS

Ashall Professor of the Foundations of Artificial Intelligence, Department of Computer Science, University of Oxford

Professor Clifford Woolf FRS

Professor, F. M. Kirby Neurobiology Center, Boston Children's Hospital and Professor of Neurology and Neurobiology, Harvard Medical School, USA

Professor Xing Xu FRS

Distinguished Professor and Director, Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Professor Jin-Quan Yu FRS

Bristol Myers Squibb Endowed Chair in Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Scripps Research, USA

Professor Kun Zhou FRS

Professor, Associate Chair (Research) of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Professor Peter Zoller FRS

Professor Emeritus, Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Innsbruck, Austria and Emeritus Scientific Director, Institute for Quantum Optics and Quantum Information, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria

Honorary fellowship

Dame Anne Rafferty FRS

Retired Lady Justice of Appeal, Chairman, State Honours Committee, Member, King's Counsel Appointments Panel and former Chancellor, University of Sheffield

ENDS.

Notes to editors:

To find out more about this year's fellowship, please contact Sofia Sancho at the Royal Society Press Office, at press@royalsociety.org or +44 20 7451 2508

The Royal Society is a self-governing Fellowship of many of the world's most distinguished scientists drawn from all areas of science, engineering, and medicine. The Society's fundamental purpose, as it has been since its foundation in 1660, is to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity.
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