



# CHRISTIANS · IN · SCIENCE

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*Exploring God's work in creation  
Encouraging concern for the environment  
Applying biblical principles to science and technology*

**President: Professor Bob White**

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## **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (PART-TIME)**

### ***Job Description***

#### **About Christians in Science (CiS)**

CiS is an international network of those concerned with the relationship between science and Christian faith, open to scientists, teachers, students and all those with an interest in this dialogue. Although CiS has been primarily a professional group, aimed at those working in science, we are actively seeking to increase a wider membership that embraces anyone with an interest in science and faith.

Christians in Science is a registered charity and its members include many senior scientists and key opinion formers, young research scientists, theologians, teachers, philosophers, journalists and others with an interest in the interaction between science and faith. CiS currently has members located within the UK and overseas including standard members, students, graduates, affiliated churches and Friends of CiS. We also have local groups around the UK which run their own programmes ranging in format from public lectures, small discussion groups or regular coffee meetings. The need for being connected and having a supportive community is incredibly important to us at CiS, which is why we want to provide opportunities for fellowship with other Christians working in science.

CiS members regularly contribute to radio and TV programmes, newspaper and magazine articles, government consultations and public events. Many members give presentations on science and religion at universities, churches, science festivals and other events around the country. CiS enjoys a good relationship with most mainstream denominations and para-church organisations in the UK, due to our large and diverse membership base, and our long history of providing high quality resources on science and faith. The organisation has links with UCCF, ECLAS, God and the Big Bang, A Rocha, the John Ray Initiative and the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. Full membership of CiS involves signing a doctrinal basis of faith.

For those unfamiliar with the work of CiS, further details may be found at [www.cis.org.uk](http://www.cis.org.uk).

## The Post

We are seeking a part-time Development Officer (two or three days a week). Start date to be negotiated but preferably as soon as practically possible. Geographical location is negotiable but the ability to travel regularly within the UK is an essential part of the job as is some degree of flexibility with the pattern of working. Some flexibility with the post-holders working format will at times be required to facilitate individual events or busier periods of CiS activity.

Funding will be for one year in the first instance and the salary will be in the region of £27-29K per annum (pro rata) depending on qualifications and experience, plus expenses and 10% employer's contribution to a stakeholder pension.

## Responsibilities

Key elements of the position will be:

### 1. Supporting the student, graduate and early career scientist community

It is critically important to the mission of the Church to involve new generations of scientists who can engage in informed dialogue about science and faith. A large focus of our work is to engage and equip the next generation of Christians in Science and so the Development Officer's role involves engaging with our younger members in various ways. The Development Officer will play a major role in recruiting new members and providing them with resources to help them integrate their scientific studies or work with their Christian faith. This also involves planning and running an annual CONNECT conference, organising and running CiS events, and supporting and encouraging the activities resulting from those events.

### 2. Managing and advertising training and development opportunities

The DO is responsible for advertising the various opportunities for training and development on offer, such as bursaries to attend Faraday training courses, the student essay competition, the mentoring scheme, and other writing and speaking opportunities. The DO will support and empower Local Groups leaders by facilitating regular meetings throughout the year. The DO will also help field general enquiries from CiS members and the public via email and social media.

### 3. Communications and Publicity

The DO will be responsible for general communications with students (the monthly student newsletter, and *ad hoc* communications in between monthly updates). The presence of CiS online has grown significantly during the pandemic, with the addition of a YouTube Channel and Instagram Account. CiS also has a presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and the CiS App. It is the responsibility of the DO to update these CiS social media accounts and share responsibility for keeping the website and app up to date with news and resources. They will represent CiS at conferences and exhibitions and play a major role in designing, ordering and distributing publicity materials.

### 4. Online, Hybrid and In-Person Resource Development

Web-based resources are of growing importance and the Development Officer will assist in maintaining the currency of these. We are looking for fresh ideas and innovation in our online media outputs, including the potential development of blogs/vlogs, podcasts and other online resources that members can contribute to. Over

the next year we are seeking to expand our capacities and skills-base for hosting hybrid-format conferences and local group events that will simultaneously be presented to in-person, local group and individual audiences. It is anticipated that the DO will play a key role in this by facilitating broadcast arrangements including on-site equipment set-up, local training and networking of groups.

## **Experience, skills and attributes**

### **Essential**

1. Must be a committed evangelical Christian who signs the CiS basis of faith.
2. Must be committed to, have knowledge of and enthusiasm for mainstream science.
3. Must have good computer skills including social media and web skills and in the use of platforms such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google Meet.
4. Must have imagination, initiative and flair for organisation, networking etc.
5. Must be able and willing to travel regularly within the UK, including occasional weekends, and to attend conferences/exhibitions for networking and membership recruitment.
6. Must be good at communicating and keeping in touch efficiently with a large number of people.

### **Desirable**

1. A degree (or equivalent experience) in a physical science-based subject.
2. Experience in fundraising, membership recruitment and retention
3. Should enjoy and preferably have some experience of being up-front in meetings etc. Although it is not essential for the post-holder to give science-faith talks *per se*, we will provide training to enable them to develop and use these skills.
4. Experience of training others to develop online skills
5. Full UK driving licence and access to a car.

The role is a demanding and varied job that involves travel, working independently, and good organisational and interpersonal skills. It is envisaged that mentoring would be provided by the outgoing Development Officer for the first few months and pastoral support would be provided by a CiS Committee Member. The role is line managed by the General Secretary and involves close working with both the Executive Officer and Chair.

## **Conditions of Appointment**

The post will be for one year initially with a six-month probationary period prior to confirmation of the remainder of the contract.

## **Application**

Further enquiries and applications should be addressed to Dr Gavin Merrifield ([secretary@cis.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cis.org.uk)). Applications should consist of a CV and a video of the nominee, speaking for 5 minutes on a Science or a Science/Faith topic of the nominee's choice. Due to the probable size of the video, please send either an unlisted YouTube link or via a file-sharing site such as or similar to Dropbox or Google Drive. (The total length of the video should not be longer than 5 ½ mins.) Plus the names and contact details of three Referees, together with a covering letter explaining briefly why you feel you are suited to the post.

**Applications should be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. We intend to interview in mid-April.**