

# Senior Faith in Leadership Programme

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022



FAITH IN LEADERSHIP



ST BENET'S HALL  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



Mustardseed  
Trust

**Pears**  
Foundation



ST GEORGE'S HOUSE CONSULTATIONS

## FACULTY



### **The Reverend Charlotte Bannister-Parker**

Charlotte has held various positions at Oxford's University Church, including Priest in Charge and Director of Outreach. She is founder of the annual Oxford Interfaith Friendship Walk and the seminar "One Earth, Many Faiths". Charlotte is also an Advisor of The Oxford Foundation, which promotes youth interfaith dialogue and projects in the UK. She is a member of the Oxford Three Faiths Week, "Relating Across Divides" at St John's College, Oxford. Charlotte was Interim Rector of the city of Oxford 2017-2018, and she is a long-time Fellow of the RGS and RSA.

Charlotte for the past decade has chaired, and is currently President of, The Children's Radio Foundation (CRF), a non-profit development organisation training and empowering youth across eight countries in Africa. Charlotte has helped build up CRF following her ministerial posting in 2008 to Oxford's sister diocese in South Africa. Before being called to the priesthood, Charlotte spent fifteen years working in development NGOs and in broadcasting, with a focus on the role and education of women in South Asia.



### **Rabbi Shoshana Boyd-Gelfand**

Shoshana is a rabbi, speaker and writer whose passion is bringing Jewish wisdom into the public square. For the past decade, she has served as a senior member of the Pears Foundation team, focusing her energy on building robust interfaith relationships and international development efforts. Shoshana also presents regularly on BBC Radio, teaches Hebrew Bible at Sarum College and serves as an officer of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, (the organisation that liaises on behalf of World Jewry with other international faith bodies, such as the Vatican and the World Council of Churches). She was a founding faculty member of Faith in Leadership's Senior Faith in Leadership Programme and has taught Polarity Management to each cohort. In addition, Shoshana is the author of numerous articles on faith-based leadership as well as *The Barefoot Book of Jewish Folk Tales*, a collection of Jewish stories for all faiths and all ages.



### **Denny Braggins**

For the last 14 years, ever since his first exposure to experiential learning at university, Denny has worked directly in the field of leadership development, organising and delivering programmes at a student, corporate, community and national levels.

A husband and father of two energetic children, Denny devotes what little spare time he has in the study of diversity and world religions. He spent the whole of his formative teenage years in Singapore. Denny's viewpoint and world perspective therefore is deeply affected by his experience of living happily alongside people of different cultures and faiths.

Denny was a pupil of the United World College of South East Asia, and went on to study Geography, Politics and Business Administration at Sheffield University. He is a keen guitarist and is learning to be fluent in Russian.



### **Joe-lee Coupe**

Joe-lee is a freelance creative professional with over five years of experience in the media industry as a videographer, camera operator, and video editor.

As a videographer, he regularly works on interview-led promotional and documentary content for Big Finish Productions, with some content being released on the official BBC Doctor Who YouTube channel.

As a live camera operator, he has worked on countless arena gigs, most recently for Gary Numan at OVO Arena Wembley; and various festivals, such, Let's Rock 80's – The Retro Festival, Download Festival, and Reading Festival.

Joe-lee is also lead videographer at Musicarta Media where he has filmed and edited projects for various companies including Audible, Sony Music Entertainment, and the London Symphony Orchestra.



### **Dr Matthew Freeman**

Matthew is the founder of Dialectix Consulting, a Virginia, US based firm that works with organisations on their diversity, equity and inclusion strategies. Matthew's passion for equity and social justice has led him across the United States and around the globe, helping people connect across difference and begin to address the challenges that divide them. Matthew has worked all kinds of organisations, and is equally comfortable with faith communities, small NGOs, members of the US Congress, or Fortune 500 corporations. With degrees in the sciences and in the humanities, Matthew appreciates the opportunities to bring that diverse educational background to bear on topics like unconscious bias-exploring what we know about how the brain functions and how that impacts our human interactions. He is the author of the book *Overcoming Bias: Building Authentic Relationships Across Differences*.



### **Krish Raval**

Krish is the Director of Faith in Leadership and the Senior Faith in Leadership Programme. An executive educator, consultant and coach, Krish focuses on leadership development, dialogue and facilitation for change and has worked in the private and voluntary sectors for three decades. A lawyer by background, Krish had a training contract with a prominent Los Angeles law firm before a deep interest in people led him to work with inner city teenagers in 1996. Krish is a Visiting Research Fellow at St Benet's Hall, University of Oxford, and has read and researched law at Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge and the University of Sheffield, respectively. He carried the Olympic Torch in his home city of Sheffield during the 2012 London Olympics and he was appointed an OBE by Her Majesty The Queen in 2018.



### **Julie Siddiqi MBE**

Julie is a mentor, consultant and gender equality campaigner with a focus on interfaith relations and applying that to social action work, together. She has a career in community grass roots work spanning 25 years and has developed a number of national initiatives bringing communities together including being Co-founder of Nisa-Nashim Jewish and Muslim Women's Network, the largest network of its kind in Europe. She is Founder of the Together We Thrive network, working with Muslim women online and across the UK to get their voices heard, to tell their own stories and to be better represented in TV and in the media. Julie is a commentator on news and media and regularly presents Thought For The Day on BBC Radio 4. She was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020 for Services to Promoting Interfaith Understanding.



### **Michael Wakelin**

Michael is Executive Chair of the Religion Media Centre an Independent resource helping journalists and others cover stories related to religion and belief. He is a founder director of the Religion and Belief Literacy Partnership working with organisations such as the House of Commons, Tesco and Marks and Spencer to accommodate religion and belief in the workplace. He is also an Executive Producer at TBI Media one of the most successful independent production companies in the country. Michael is particularly responsible for the Pause for Thought strand on BBC Radio Two.

Michael has worked with Krish on the Senior Faith in Leadership Programme since it began in 2012 and serves on the faculty with a particular role in media training - something he also does with major Religious organisations. Formerly Michael read theology at Birmingham University and worked at the BBC for 23 years across all networks ending up as Head of Religious Broadcasting, leaving in 2010. He is Chair of the Reckitt Trust and an adviser to the Oxford University Faculty of Theology and Religion.



### **Dr Tamra Wright**

Tamra wears many hats, both literally and figuratively. As an academic researcher and lecturer with a PhD in Philosophy, she specialises in 20th-century Jewish thought, particularly the ethics of Emmanuel Levinas and Jewish responses to the Holocaust. She is the author of *The Twilight of Jewish Philosophy: Emmanuel Levinas's Ethical Hermeneutics* as well as essays on Buber, Rosnezhweig, Fackenheim and Levinas. Inspired by the legacy of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z'l, she has also developed an abiding interest in the points of intersection between Positive Psychology and Jewish teaching.

Tamra spent most of her career to date at the London School of Jewish Studies, where she created and ran the Bradfield Educational Leadership Programme, training over 200 Orthodox women for roles as Jewish educators and leaders, as well as overseeing the development and delivery of degree programmes in Jewish Studies and Jewish Education.

During lockdown she trained as a Tiny Habits® Certified Coach and founded 2020 Torah, an online Jewish learning platform.

## ADJUNCT FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES



### **Alexandra Martins**

Alex is an independent researcher, facilitator, advocate and Co-Founder of The Equity Index, a UK-based social enterprise. She has served as a Strategic Advisor to Faith in Leadership since 2018. Alex is passionate about creating a more equitable international development sector. She facilitates discussions between diverse groups of stakeholders from both the global South and North and is trained in participatory facilitation techniques including Group Facilitation Methods & Open Space Technology. She advocates for greater equity in the international development sector, with a focus on the intersection between racial and gender equity and equitable partnerships, taking into account power imbalances resulting from historical and neo-colonial dynamics. Born in Johannesburg, she was raised in South Africa and Brazil and is currently based in London, UK.



### **Dr Patrick McNamara Ph.D.**

Patrick has worked with universities, corporations, governments, NGOs, and foundations for over 30 years. Dr. McNamara consulted with more than 300 organizations and presented workshops in the US and over a dozen other countries. He serves as the Director of International Studies at University of Nebraska at Omaha and previously served as Senior International Officer, Director of Schwalb Center for Israel, Jewish Studies and the Middle East, and Director of Omaha World Affairs Council. He has led over \$15 million worth of grant projects in South East Asia, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and the Balkans. Other experience includes: overseeing philanthropic grant programs which annually gave over \$80 million to nonprofits; directing the Omaha Hate Crimes Project, a partnership to fight hate funded by the US Department of Justice; and serving as Executive Vice President for Initiatives of Change-USA, part of an international interfaith NGO "building trust across the world's divides." Patrick gave a TEDxOmaha Talk on Water Conflict, Water Peace. Dr. McNamara holds a Ph.D. in public administration, M.Sc. in conflict analysis and resolution and B.A. comparative religions. Patrick is married to Aviva Segall and they are proud parents of two daughters in college.



### **Ruth Peacock**

Ruth is an experienced journalist, with more than 20 years at the BBC as a reporter, correspondent, producer and editor. Her work has included editing on UK and world news desks and managing reporters throughout the UK. At various times, she has specialised in religious affairs reporting. She set up the GNS two-way service, which supplies BBC local and regional radio with live interviews on news stories.

Since leaving the BBC, she has worked as a journalist, PR consultant and media trainer with various clients including the Media Trust, Future Leaders Trust and Street Child United, securing wide coverage in the UK and globally.

Ruth is also an executive coach, with clients at the BBC and charities in London. She has been at the forefront of many change projects and was a training and comms manager on the move of 6,000 staff into the new BBC building in London W1. This led to a special interest in collaboration, which she studied at Birkbeck college, as part of a Master's degree in organizational change.

Her own voluntary work includes setting up a community choir which raised £60k for charity in 4 years. She has been a trustee of three charities and chairman of one.

Ruth brings all these skills to each project to provide wide ranging support and advice.



### **Dr Julia Snyder**

Julia is Lecturer in New Testament at Westcott House, an Anglican theological college in Cambridge, and Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge. Her research focusses on storytelling practices and social dynamics in the early Christian movement. Before coming to Cambridge, she was a lecturer and researcher at the University of Regensburg and University of Tübingen in Germany. She completed her PhD at the University of Edinburgh, and has a BA in Mathematics and Classics, and a Master of Divinity degree.

She is actively involved in the Cambridge Interfaith Programme and in Scriptural Reasoning and is co-leader of the Scripture & Violence Project.



### **Dr Daniel Weiss**

Daniel is Polonsky-Coexist Senior Lecturer in Jewish Studies in the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Cambridge. His research focuses on the relation between modern philosophical thought and classical Jewish texts, as well as on the theory and practice of interreligious relations. He took up his post in the Divinity Faculty in 2010, after previously teaching at the University of Virginia and at Oberlin College. He earned his PhD at the University of Virginia, after having received his Bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a Masters of Theological Studies degree from Harvard Divinity School. He is actively involved in the Cambridge Interfaith Programme and in Scriptural Reasoning, and is co-leader of the Scripture & Violence Project ([www.scriptureandviolence.org](http://www.scriptureandviolence.org)).