



## WYCLIFFE HALL

Press Release

### Wycliffe Hall to launch 'The New Renaissance' Project

Wycliffe Hall, a theological college that is part of Oxford University, has set itself the task of fostering a New Renaissance of Christian scholarship and culture. Drawing inspiration from historical periods of intellectual and creative energy that reshaped societies, Wycliffe Hall believes that there is a need for cultural energy levels of our generation to be galvanized, and for society's attitudes and assumptions to be reset.

The current state of society, marked by deep political and ethical divisions, brutal discourse on social media leading to mental health issues, banal cultural expression, and the loss of Truth as a universal category, has created a pressing need for a new vision and direction. The Church, which should contribute to addressing these issues, has often been perceived as irrelevant and disconnected from the thought and culture of society – largely because of a failure to engage.

Wycliffe Hall aims to address these challenges and foster a new Renaissance of Christian scholarship and culture through three main strategies:

1. **Quality Research:** Wycliffe Hall is committed to building a crucible of the highest quality Christian thinking through its research endeavours. The recent appointment of renowned theologian NT Wright as Senior Research Fellow, along with Junior Research Fellows, Andrew Newell and Andrew Cowan, is a testimony to this commitment. Wycliffe Hall aims to be a hub of Christian scholarship that is respected and turned to for wisdom on the issues of the day.
2. **Mentoring a New Generation of Christian Academics:** Wycliffe Hall recognizes the importance of Christian academics in every discipline and seeks to mentor a new generation of scholars who can integrate their faith and research in a way that inspires critical thinking, excellent teaching, and Christian witness. Drawing inspiration from historical figures such as C.S. Lewis and Dorothy Sayers, Wycliffe Hall aims to equip young scholars to be fine thinkers, inspiring teachers, and articulate Christian witnesses in their respective fields and faculties.

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Principal: The Revd Dr Michael Lloyd BA MA DPhil



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3. **Centre for the Arts:** Wycliffe Hall believes that truth and beauty are intertwined, and that the arts play a vital role in shaping culture and imagination. By making Wycliffe Hall a centre for the arts, the institution aims to promote artistic expression that expands and elevates the human spirit. Christian artists are seen as key communicators of the sanity and humanity of the Christian vision to contemporary society.

**‘I am excited and proud to be part of Wycliffe Hall's project to foster a new Renaissance. There have been certain moments in the past when Christians have led the way in regenerating society not only through prayer and teaching but through art, music, literature and other ways of fostering creative imagination and fresh hope. We need just such a moment right now, and a community like Wycliffe Hall is excellently placed to foster it.’**

Professor N.T. Wright

‘The New Renaissance’ project seeks to engage intelligently, creatively, winsomely, and humbly with society, offering a better song to sing.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk/renaissance](http://www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk/renaissance)

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Note to Editors: Please find attached high-resolution images for use with this press release.

[Fostering a New Renaissance v1](#)

[Fostering a New Renaissance v2](#)

[Wycliffe Hall, Oxford](#)

[Wycliffe Hall, students](#)

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[Revd Dr Michael Lloyd](#)

[Professor N.T. Wright](#)

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