

## **BAME Staff Network Announces New Co-chairs**



Professor Franklin Aigbirhio    Dr. Rabia Dada-Oughton

The University of Cambridge [BAME staff network](#) is delighted to announce that Professor Franklin Aigbirhio and Dr Rabia Dada-Oughton are the new Chairs of the University of Cambridge BAME staff network.

**Prof. Franklin Aigbirhio** is based at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. He is the Professor of Molecular Imaging Chemistry at the Department of Clinical Neurosciences in the University's Clinical School and Senior Research Fellow at Magdalene College. Franklin research focuses on developing novel imaging technologies and methods and their application to biomedical research.

**Dr Rabia Dada-Oughton** works in the Cambridge Endowment for Research in Finance, at the University of Cambridge. She has lived and worked in Cambridge since 2011. Rabia holds a MA in Race and Resistance and a PhD in Postcolonial History. She was educated in Pakistan, the US, Canada and the UK, and is an alumna of Darwin College.

The chairs of the BAME staff network intend to embed ownership of the network within the membership and take a lead on the development of the network. Their goal is to translate discussions into tangible actions to improve the BAME experience at the University.

As chairs of the network Professor Aigbirhio and Dr Dada-Oughton state:

“It’s a pleasure and honour to be Co-Chairs for BAME staff network.

These are turbulent times. The COVID-19 pandemic, with its disproportionately impact on the BAME community and the George Floyd incident crystallising many evident issues. We now have the University entering a phase of significant financial reductions, which could result in major impact on network members.

All these and other issues emphasise the important need for a BAME staff network – a forum to articulate our views, drive initiatives and policies to improve working in the university and importantly a platform to come together and support each other in various ways.

For all these activities we are looking forward to working with the Equality and Diversity consultants (Joanna Jasiewicz and Miriam Lynn), the University Equality Champions (Monica Moreno Figueroa and Kamal Munir) and most of all with fellow network members.

Central to being an effective network and thereby achieving our aims is representing and having strong engagement by as many University staff who identify and support BAME issues. So, we urge you to join the BAME staff network. To do this please sign up to an email list on which we post events [here](#).”

We are currently looking for volunteers to join the BAME staff network committee. To volunteer please email network secretary, Jenny McGuigan, [jm2346@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jm2346@cam.ac.uk). You can also use this email address to contact chairs directly to discuss or raise any issues.