

President: The Academy of Medical Sciences

The Academy of Medical Sciences is the independent voice of medical sciences in the UK, working in collaboration with partners across the UK and internationally to promote biological, medical and health research to improve health and wellbeing. The Academy is currently working to deliver its new 10-year vision and mission launched in 2022: 'Making medical science work for everyone.'

The role

The President provides leadership and strategic direction to the Academy of Medical Sciences, working with Council to set the vision, objectives and policies of the organisation and providing oversight for the entirety of the Academy's work.

As well as Council you will be supported in the role by five [Honorary Officers](#) who take responsibility for specific areas of Academy work and a highly effective and professional [staff team](#), led by the Executive Director. The Academy will ensure that a successful Presidential candidate from anywhere in the UK will be fully supported.

Term of office and time commitment

The next President will take up the position with effect from the Council meeting of 25 April 2024. The term of office is four years in the first instance, with an option for one additional year upon mutual agreement.

The Academy President is a prestigious role requiring a time commitment of, on average, 1 to 2 days per week, with this commitment varying from month to month as priorities dictate. This includes face to face participation in London based meetings and regional events across the UK, as well as availability for virtual meetings and media interviews. The Academy will offer full executive support for its future President including a formal induction and media training.

The Academy wishes to attract a diverse pool of candidates and, subject to Council approval, would be willing to consider a 'secondment-type' arrangement with the institution of a successful candidate to facilitate their fulfilment of the role.

Key attributes

The Academy's [Regulations](#) governing the election of Honorary Officers of the Academy set out that suitable candidates should demonstrate *'high academic standing and a significant track record of achievement; have the ability to represent the different constituencies within the Academy and the ability to commit sufficient time and energy to the role and will have regard to the Academy's commitment to equality and diversity'*.

In addition to distinction in the medical sciences, you will be expected to demonstrate:

- Experience of leadership at the highest level.
- Integrity, strategic vision and sound judgement.

- An ability to engage at the highest level with government and stakeholders and the authority, influence and experience to deliver the Academy's mission.
- An ability to engage with and influence key UK organisations, experts and policy leaders.
- An appreciation of the major UK and global biomedical and health research challenges and where the Academy can have its greatest impact.
- Excellent communications skills and a demonstrable ability to engage, inspire and inform expert and public audiences in person and through the media.
- A commitment to proactively engage with our diverse and influential Fellowship across the UK
- Proven leadership in the area of equity, diversity and inclusion and an affinity with the Academy's values and behaviours
- A demonstrable commitment to developing young researchers, and involving them in the work of the Academy
- A collaborative working style that harnesses the skills and knowledge of others, particularly our staff, to drive the organisation forward.
- Recognition of the value of diverse perspective in furthering biomedical and health research including those of patients and the public.

Formal responsibilities

The President is a trustee of the Academy and chairs meetings of the Academy Council, Honorary Officers and Nominations Committee. In addition to the five Council meetings per year (in February, April, June, October and December, at least one of which is in-person), Honorary Officers meet a further 6 times (in January, March, May, July, September, November). Nominations Committee meetings take place on the same day as Council and Officers meetings. The President also plays a formal role in the admission of New Fellows each year at Admissions Day in late June and also chairs the Academy's Annual General Meeting in early December each year.

- To chair Council and Officers meetings, guiding the strategic direction of the Academy's work, advising on specific projects and activities, and overseeing successful delivery of Academy outputs.
- To build and enhance high-level relationships with key organisations, including Government, UKRI, research funders, universities, medical schools and learned societies, medical research charities, pharma, biotech and other related industry, regulators, NHS groups and agencies, and others.
- To represent the Academy at meetings with key external contacts, and on a selected number of external committees, including the Prime Minister's Council for Science & Technology.
- To engage the Academy Fellows and the broader medical science community, ensuring dialogue with the Academy around prevailing issues, challenges and opportunities.
- To act as a spokesperson for the Academy, and more broadly as the authoritative voice of biomedical and health research, engaging pro-actively and reactively with the media, and speaking to expert, public and patient audiences.
- To oversee the Academy's fundraising activities and our work to secure external income including meeting, developing relationships with, and asking for support from existing and potential donors and funders.

- To liaise with the Executive Director to oversee and support the Academy's operational affairs.

Eligibility and process:

- A nomination form is available on the Academy [website](#).
- The post is open to all Ordinary Fellows of the Academy.
- Nominations may be made by any Ordinary Fellow for any other Ordinary Fellow, providing that they have agreed to be nominated.
- The nomination must be signed by three supporting Ordinary Fellows.
- Candidates are asked to countersign the nomination form to indicate their willingness to be nominated and to include a 300 word statement outlining their background and how they would contribute to the Academy and its future. These statements will be circulated to Council, along with a copy of the candidate's CV.
- A copy of the candidate's CV must be submitted with the nomination form.
- Nominations must be submitted to the Academy office c/o Simon Denegri, Executive Director, **by 9 February 2024**.
- Interviews for the role will take place with the Nominations Committee **in March** (*exact date tbc*).
- The Academy Council will elect the next President at a specially convened Council meeting on 25 March.

In accordance with the Academy's Regulations, the [Nominations Committee](#) oversees the process of identifying Academy Honorary Officers. The Committee draws on expertise from current serving Officers, current and former Council members and Ordinary Fellows.

Suggestions and expressions of interest are welcome from any area of the Fellowship and should be sent in confidence to the Acting President, Professor Paul Stewart FMedSci at (paul.stewart@acmedsci.ac.uk). Any Fellow who wishes to discuss the role further should contact Professor Stewart at the earliest opportunity.

The deadline for receipt of completed nominations is **17.00 on 9 February 2024**.

Council will elect the next President at a specially convened Council meeting on 25 March informed by the deliberations and recommendations of the Nominations Committee.

Professor Paul Stewart FMedSci
Acting President, Academy of Medical Sciences and Chair, Nominations Committee
November 2023

Annex:

Current Honorary Officers:

Professor Paul Stewart FMedSci, Professor of Medicine (Emeritus), University of Leeds (Acting President)

Professor Ed Bullmore FMedSci, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge (Treasurer)

Professor Tom Solomon CBE FMedSci, Professor of Neurology and Director, NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Emerging and Zoonotic Infections, University of Liverpool (Vice President, International)

Professor James Naismith FRS FRSE FMedSci, Head, Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences (MPLS) Division, University of Oxford (Vice President, Non-Clinical)

Professor David Adams FMedSci, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor and Head of College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham (Registrar)

Professor Rosalind Smyth CBE FMedSci, Vice Dean (Research), Faculty of Population Health Sciences, University College London (Vice President, Clinical)

Council Members (2023):

Professor Franklin Aigbirho FMedSci, Professor of Molecular Imaging Chemistry, University of Cambridge (co-opted member)

Professor Wiebke Arlt FMedSci, Director, MRC London Institute of Medical Sciences, Imperial College London

Professor Sadaf Farooqi FRS FMedSci, Wellcome Principal Research Fellow and Professor of Metabolism and Medicine, University of Cambridge

Dr Felicity Gabbay FMedSci, Founding and Senior Partner, Transcrip Partners (co-opted member)

Professor Mandy MacLean MBE FRSE FMedSci, Professor of Pulmonary Pharmacology, University of Strathclyde

Professor Kathryn Maitland OBE FMedSci, Professor of Tropical Paediatric Infectious Disease, Imperial College London

Professor Neena Modi FMedSci, Professor of Neonatal Medicine, Imperial College London

Professor Sir Andrew Pollard FMedSci, Director, Oxford Vaccine Group and Professor of Paediatric Infection Immunity, University of Oxford

Professor Eleanor Riley FMedSci, Professor of Immunology and Infectious Disease, University of Edinburgh

Professor Ijeoma Uchegbu FMedSci, Professor of Pharmaceutical Nanoscience, University College London

Professor Paula Williamson FMedSci, Professor of Medical Statistics, University of Liverpool.

Emerging Research Leader Co-opted members (2023):

Dr Rebecca Drummond, Birmingham Fellow, Institute of Immunology and Immunotherapy, University of Birmingham.

Dr Rina Dutta, Reader in Suicidology and Psychiatry, King's College London;

Patient Representative members of Council (2023):

Lynn Laidlaw
Nanik Pursani

Senior Leadership Team:

Simon Denegri (Executive Director)

Dr Rachel Quinn (Director, Medical Science Policy)

Dr Suzanne Candy (Director, Biomedical Grants and Policy)

Nick Hillier (Director, Communications and Engagement)

Aled Bath (Director, Finance and Resources)

Dr Clare McVicker (Assistant Director, Grants)

Key dates for 2024

Council meetings:

- 8 February
- 25 April
- 20 June
- 10 October
- 2 December

Officers Meetings:

- 18 January
- 14 March
- 16 May
- 18 July
- 13 September
- 14 November

New Fellows Admissions Day:

27 June 2024

Annual Fellows Meeting:

3 December 2024