

From the President
Professor Andrew Morris CBE FRSE PMedSci
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16 July 2024

Dear Fellows

I am pleased to invite nominations from our Fellowship for this year's Council election.

Professors Wiebke Arlt, Sadaf Farooqi, Andrew Pollard and Paula Williamson will be stepping down from Council in December having reached the end of their term of office and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their significant contribution to the Academy during this time. **We will be looking to fill all four vacancies on Council with equally committed colleagues who can command the respect of their peers.**

With a new Government in office, **UK biomedical and health research needs a strong and independent Academy of Medical Sciences** to make the case for our community and ensure that the UK continues to be one of the best places in the world to do health research. In the coming months, the Academy will be using its leadership and convening power to advance the debate on key issues such as R&D investment, powering economic growth, enabling the discovery and industrial science base, research in the NHS and future of clinical academia and your support will be crucial.

As the Academy's foremost decision-making body, nothing epitomises the dynamic strength of your collective voice more than Council. Its membership should therefore reflect the depth and breadth of the medical sciences across our Fellowship - from non-clinical colleagues working in discovery and lab-based disciplines, as well as areas such as data science, to those in industry and clinical academia and the increasingly important nursing, midwifery and the allied health professions. **To ensure the appropriate balance on Council, we will this year be reserving one place for our non-clinical disciplines to recognise the importance of this constituency to the Academy's impact and profile.** Further details are outlined in the election guidelines.

Council roles are open to all Academy Fellows - including those most recently elected – and I hope you will consider standing or encourage a colleague to do so. I can't think of a more exciting time to join us. As well as working with the new Government, we will be resetting our strategy and negotiating new funding that will change the financial outlook of the organisation. As an elected Council member and trustee, you will also play an important role in ensuring we are compliant with charity law and regulation.

If you wish to informally discuss the role of Council members, or how the Academy's Council operates more broadly, please do contact me or our Executive Director, Simon Denegri (simon.denegri@acmedsci.ac.uk).

Fellows interested in standing in this year's election are asked to complete the nomination form and return it to the Executive Director (c/o Alison Rojo at alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk) **by 17:00 on Friday 9 September 2024.**

We look forward to receiving your nominations.

Thank you for your support of the Academy.
Yours sincerely



Council election process and dates 2024

Our Council election is now held digitally. In early October Fellows will be emailed voting instructions by our election provider. Voting will open on 2 October. Votes will be counted on 8 November and the results of the election will be announced at the AGM on 3 December.

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The election is overseen and supported by the Academy's [Nominations Committee](#). [Guidance notes](#) including the current composition of Council, tentative dates for next year's Council meetings and the [nomination form](#) are provided on the [Academy website](#).

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