



Guidance notes for Members considering standing for election

SCI Today

SCI is continuing to focus on our renewed sense of purpose, as a multi-science and multi-disciplinary society, serving the diverse sectors in the modern chemistry-using industry.

Our charitable objective is to work at the interface between science and industry, supporting and promoting innovation and industry for the benefit of society.

To achieve this, SCI needs the support and involvement of its active and dedicated members. If you feel you have relevant experience and a passion for promoting scientific innovation – and if you would be willing to help SCI build its future in the space where science meets business – please do consider standing for election. The Board of Trustees is keen to ensure diversity of representation across gender, race and age.

2017 Elections

This year, the following positions are available:

- 3 Ordinary Members of the Board of Trustees
- 2 Ordinary Members of the Finance and Investments Advisory Committee
- 4 Ordinary Members of the Members Committee
- 2 Ordinary Members of the Publications Committee

Across all the vacancies, it is expected that candidates will have experience of, or expertise relevant to the position for which they are standing. Some of these roles will be ideal for members with experience as a Group Officer and Members interested in joining the governance structure as part of their personal or professional development are also encouraged to apply.

All Governance Committee members and Chairs work as an integral part of the SCI team and candidates should be ready to act as ambassadors and advocates for the Society.

The Board of Trustees appreciates the willingness of members to stand for election and, if successful, to devote time and effort to the governance of SCI. The Society is a dynamic organisation and candidates should be prepared to contribute as we develop new ways of working. This is a significant commitment and it is important for candidates to be clear on the obligations and expectations of particular roles.

Obligations and Expectations

It goes without saying that all governance roles in SCI demand commitment and proactivity. In the case of the Board of Trustees, there are also some legal obligations and liabilities, which are similar to those of a company director.

The Charity Commission sets out six principles of good governance required from a Trustee and these are equally applicable to prospective members of SCI's Advisory Committees:

- Understand the role
- Deliver the mission
- Work as individuals and as a team
- Control effectively
- Behave with integrity
- Be open and accountable

Further details from the Charity Commission can be found *here*.

To help define the role and purpose of each part of SCI's governance structure a note detailing The Role of the SCI Board of Trustees and Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committees have been drawn up. Prospective candidates should take care to read and understand these.

Applicants for Board of Trustees

Trustees are likely to have extensive knowledge of SCI and will need the relevant professional experience and personal qualities to be able to take on leadership and ambassadorial roles in the Society, including an enthusiasm to work as part of the SCI governance team and, of course, to act in the best interests of the Society.

A new requirement has been introduced for 2017. All nominees for Trustee positions must provide two completed nomination forms. Both nominators need to be a fully paid up SCI Member in good standing, and one must be a Trustee at the time of the nomination being submitted.