ROYAL COLLEGE of PHYSICIANS of EDINBURGH

ACADEMIC MEDICINE REPRESENTATIVE

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

The College's Council is made up of elected Office Bearers, appointed Office Bearers, directly elected Fellows, and representatives from the Trainees and Members' Committee, Lay Committee, and other Faculties and Colleges. The Council has oversight of all clinical, professional and health policy matters and may exercise such other functions as are delegated to it by the Board of Trustees. Council has responsibility for the appointment of Office Bearers and for the election of candidates to Fellowship, and Regional Adviser posts.

The Academic Medicine Representative is appointed by Council to:

- Enhance the profile of research and academic medicine within the College both regionally and nationally and demonstrate the importance of research to the NHS, resident doctors in training and to patient care.
- To act as the Academic Medicine Representative for the College and a main communication link with Council for Academic training in the United Kingdom.
- Bring their expertise in academic medicine to Council.
- Act as an ambassador for the College in their respective specialty.

DURATION OF POST:

The role holder shall be appointed for one term (3 years) and then be eligible for re-appointment for one further term.

KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- Highlight the importance of academic medicine in clinical practice and the essential role that clinicians play in supporting clinical research.

- Promote clinical scientific innovation and development, ensure the high quality of training and career development for potential and established clinical researchers and represent the interests of those who have chosen to undertake a career academic pathway.

- Represent the RCPE at Academy of the Royal Colleges (AoMRC) Academic Leads Meeting and speak on behalf of RCPE for the research within the organisation

- Collate information and intelligence from RCPE members and fellows to feed into sharing practice or policy discussions for RCPE and Academy and The UK Royal Colleges Academic Group.

- To act as the cross-college voice by co-producing strategic initiatives, interacting jointly with policy makers and other relevant bodies to promote academic medicine.

- Identify, develop and maintain effective links with other national stakeholders in academic medicine including the NHS, industry, funding bodies, the Academy of Medical Sciences, the Academy of Medical Colleges and organisations representing those active in the biomedical and relevant physical sciences.

- Collaborate with the RCPE EDI committee and external organisations to promote equity of access to opportunities in academic medicine.

- Contribute to the work of the RCPE Trusts and Funds committee.

Future Developments to Consider in Post

- Develop a formal College academic/Research forum, to gather member intelligence and support the Academic Representative role and hence fully meet national expectations for academic leadership and representation.

- Develop a clear College-wide research and academic strategy, aligned with national initiatives (e.g. NIHR, AoMRC clinician researcher credentials).

- Strengthen visible support for research and academic careers, including trainee engagement, symposium activity, and integration of research into education and QI programmes.

- Clarify governance by explicitly defining accountability for research within the College, enabling stronger and more credible national representation.

General Responsibilities

- Identifying nominations for Fellowship

- Source of advice about Fellowship nominations of Physicians and others working in Academic medicine

- Assist in arranging relevant educational events to complement College Research and Innovation

- Participate in regular online briefings from the President when available, and attend the consider attending the annual Regional Advisers' Day (in person or virtually)

Meetings to Attend

- Academy (AoMRC) meetings – 3 per year and to seek a deputy when they are unavailable. This meeting has external representation from bodies such as the Academy of Medical Sciences, Health Education England (HEE) and National Institute of Health Research (NIHR).

- Attend the Royal Colleges Academic Research Forum.

- Represent the RCPE on the Research and Academic Medicine Committee, a standing advisory committee established by the Royal College of Physicians of London.

- Represent the RCPE on the Health Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), Elective Clinical Forum of NHS England and Royal Colleges Improvement Network

Attendance at Council and Ceremonial Events

- Attend all meetings of Council (usually 4 a year) to provide updates on academic matters and seek approval for RCPE policy on these issues.

- Attend any General Meetings of the College, the Annual Meeting of the College, and whenever possible, the New Fellows' Admission Ceremonies and MRCP (UK) Diploma Ceremonies held throughout the year.

Participation in Committees or Short Working Life Groups

- Council Members may also be required to join other College committees or short-life working groups as Council representatives. The dates of these commitments are "linked" together as far as possible to limit time spent travelling to the College and video and telephone links are available for many committee meetings. There are, in addition, a small number of formal dinners throughout the year.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Essential

- Fellow of RCPE

- Fellow in current medical practice working in a substantive University Post with an Honorary Consultant post.

- Must be a practising Academic at the time of appointment and for the duration of the appointment

- Working in research (clinical or basic science), innovational and medical education

- Track record in research publications and funding

Desirable

- Understanding and interest in research policy within the home country

EXPENSES:

This role is honorary, but reasonable travel and other expenses incurred during the discharge of duties will be reimbursed.

Please contact The Secretary, Dr Lesley Dawson FRCP Edin, Secretary, if you have any questions about the responsibilities of serving on Council at: l.dawson@rcpe.ac.uk

This College is committed to improving equality, diversity and inclusivity, and that College representation should reflect the diversity of the medical workforce. We therefore welcome participation by all Fellows whatever their gender, ethnicity, age, religion, disability or sexual orientation.