

3rd August 2020

Dear BIA member,

Elections to BIA Council 2020

As a result of the upheaval caused by COVID-19 we took a decision to postpone the planned BIA council elections earlier this year but a number of posts on Council are due to become vacant from September 2020 so we hope very much we can get the elections underway now and ensure posts are filled as soon as possible. Current post holders have kindly agreed to remain in place until the elections are complete.

Council is seeking nominations to the positions listed below. This is an opportunity to get involved in the work of the Association and shaping its future. Please do consider applying, encourage any colleagues you think could make a difference and of course then VOTE the election when the time comes round.

Voting papers will be issued once nominations have been received and the results will be declared at the BIA AGM which we plan to hold virtually **4 – 5pm, Tuesday 29th September 2020**.

Vacancies are as follows (*demitting post-holders*)

Principal Officer positions

- Meetings Secretary (*Dr Hiten Thaker*)

Members of Council

- Scientific & Research Secretary (*Dr Chris Chiu*)
- Clinical Services Secretary (ID) (*Dr Jo Herman & Dr Anna Checkley*)
- Clinical Services Secretary (Microbiology & Virology) (*Dr Natasha Ratnaraja*)
- Training Grade Member (Meetings) (*Dr Farnaz Dave*)
- Training Grade Member (Professional Affairs) (*Dr Sara Boyd and as interim holders Dr Dinesh Aggarwal & Dr Fergus Hamilton*)

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the demitting members of Council all of whom have made invaluable and selfless contributions.

In accordance with our constitution, Council is responsible for ensuring that there are suitable nominations for Principal Officer positions. In this instance we will ensure there is a strong nomination for the role of Meetings Secretary but I want to emphasise that additional nominations are welcome. Nominees for Principal Officer positions should ideally have experience of being on our Council, or another specialist society.

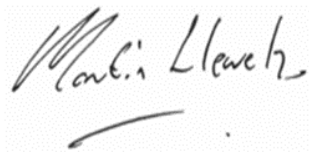
Principal Officers are the trustees of the BIA and as such work in accordance with the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) guidelines, a guide to which can be found [here](#). All members of council are now required to make a declaration of conflicts of interest.

Role descriptions can be found [here](#) on the BIA website but especially if you have not been involved in Council before I would encourage any members interested in any Council roles to contact myself or the current post-holders to find out more.

I hope that many of you will consider applying!

Applications can be made [here](#).

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Martin Llewelyn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Professor Martin Llewelyn - BIA President