

So you want to be a BPSA executive member?

You've probably been at conference for a few days now. You may have been to other BPSA events throughout the year and seen the executive running around. Maybe you've sat back and wondered what it would be like to be on the BPSA executive. Maybe you've fancied running for an executive position yourself.

So what executive positions are there? Well, listed below are all 18 positions. Details about what's involved can be found in the regulations in the back of the conference booklet.

Executive Positions

President
Vice President
Secretary General
Treasurer
Public Relations Officer
Membership Secretary
Graduate Officer
Student Exchange Officer
Future Pharmacist Editor
Educational Development Officer
I.T. Officer
Northern Area Coordinator
Pennine Area Coordinator
Eastern Area Coordinator
Western Area Coordinator
Central Area Coordinator
Annual Conference Organisers (x2)

The best way to find out what the job really entails is by speaking to the person currently doing the job and anyone who has previously done the job in the past. Also talk to any current or past executive members. Ensure you discuss your nomination with the Returning Officer.

Is there anything else involved?

A year on the BPSA executive involves more than just the 'bits' related to the job. In fact if you ask any current or past executive member they will tell you that general executive 'stuff' takes up far more time than individual tasks.

So what sort of things does being on the executive involve? Well quite a bit really. Firstly there are executive meetings. The constitution states that the executive must meet six times a year and at least two of these are with BPSA Representatives. These meetings usually take place over a weekend and usually in different locations around the country. Travel costs to and from meetings are covered by the BPSA and accommodation is usually sleeping on someone's sofa or floor!

On top of this there is the British Pharmaceutical Conference (BPC) which the executive usually also attend. Often these coincide with meetings. However, the BPSA attend to raise its profile in the pharmacy world and to meet with sponsors and such like.

Executive members are also expected to help with fresher's roadshows. Each year the BPSA visit the current 23 schools of pharmacy in Great Britain to speak to first year pharmacy students and to sign them up. Usually the roadshows all take place within a three - week period and is one of the most hectic periods in the BPSA calendar.

The BPSA also meets with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Council in London, to discuss student opinions and keep the Society up to speed on what the BPSA is up to.

What else? As well as all this executive members are expected to help in any association business they can. Whether this means meeting reps and going into schools of pharmacy to do presentations, travelling across the country to meet with potential sponsors or just lugging boxes of pharmacy freebies; there's always something that needs doing.

Of course on top of this, there's all of the BPSA events i.e. 9 area conferences, pre-reg conference, annual conference etc.

How much time does BPSA take up?

Anyone who told you that being on the BPSA executive took 5 minutes a week would be lying. Without trying to put anyone off, BPSA can take up lot of your free time. Senior executive positions can really take over your life at times.

To be a good executive member involves giving a lot of free time to BPSA, this means evenings as well as weekends. It is not just a case of a couple of days work before an event is to be held or a magazine needs to be published, or just ten minutes work filling in a couple of forms. Being on the executive involves a lot of work all year round, and a certain level of commitment is expected from anyone who gets elected onto the committee.

Obviously this amount of dedication is not for everyone, which is why it is very important that if you're considering running for executive you are sure that you have the time and commitment that BPSA deserves.

Why should I run for executive?

The benefits of being on the BPSA executive far outweigh the time and effort put in. Apart from being part of something special and meeting people who are likely to become very good friends, being an executive member opens up opportunities that perhaps most pharmacy students will never get. It is something that sets you aside from the ordinary and is something that looks amazing on anyone's C.V.

Speak to any current or past executive member and they will tell you exactly why they stood for election and why most of them come back for more.

Where can I find out more information?

The simplest thing to do is to speak to the person currently doing the job you're interested in. For the last 10 months they have been helping to run BPSA and are in the best position to answer any questions you might have. Have a look at the back of this booklet. There you will find a list of who has done what job over the past several years. As you will see, many executive members have been part of the committee for two or three years.

Also have a look in your conference booklet. In there, you'll find reports of the executive members, which outline exactly what the last year has entailed. Speak to the Steering Committee who will be able to give you copies of previous reports to read. These will give you an idea of what the job entails and what it means to be part of BPSA.

Questions you need to ask yourself before standing for election are:

- Do you have something to add to BPSA?
- Can you work well in a team and by yourself?
- Can you seriously commit the time and effort that being on the BPSA executive entails?

If the answers to these three questions are yes, then you are the right sort of person to help run the BPSA.

The Officers- 2000-2007

<p>President Heena Bhakta Jen de Val Gautam Paul James Wood Liz Doran Andy Christopherson Cat Walker</p>	<p>Vice President Jing Hu Amy Lepiorz Nisha Thakrar Lucy Wakefield Anna Watson Clare Sears Andy Christopherson</p>	<p>Secretary General James Davies Alastair Williamson <i>Bev Stevens</i> Gautam Paul Gautam Paul Kat Marsh Shona Anderson</p>
<p>Treasurer Alison Holmes Lynzie Dagg (Resigned)/Jen de Val <i>Jen de Val</i> Jen de Val Kristy Link Kristy Link Claire Sears</p>	<p>Public Relations Officer Gemma Donovan Chris Barnes <i>Nicki Shaw</i> Nicki Shaw Emily Richards (co-opted)/Liz Doran Liz Doran Liz Doran</p>	<p>Membership Secretary Charlotte Mawson Heena Bhakta Chinelo Onyiagha Richard Thornton Mike Edwards Mike Harrison Emma Hughes</p>
<p>Student Exchange Officer Kar Sin Michael Man Evelyn Tang Niall Kealy Nisha Thakrar Lucy Wakefield Eimear Ni Sheachnasigh Sid McDonald Andy Christopherson</p>	<p>Graduate Officer Alastair Williamson Jen de Val/ Bev Stevens (co-opted) Lamia Samrin Richard Harrison Kate Brown Scott Dalgliesh Jo Hood</p>	<p>F.P. Editor Jared Ching Husam Jafar Eddy Thomas Chris Barnes Chris Barnes Finlay Royle Kat Marsh</p>
<p>Sports Officer until 2005/6 Replaced by EDO 2005-6 Chinelo Onyiagha Chinelo Onyiagha</p>	<p>Educational Development Officer (EDO) from 2005 Louise Hemmings Sian Jackson Amy Lepiorz</p>	<p>I.T. Officer Ryan Hamilton Chris Pearson Richard Taggart Richard Taggart Ceri Tawton Mike Edwards Andy Down</p>
<p>Northern Area Coordinator Niall Byrne Iris Yapp Alastair Williamson Amy Lepiorz Maria Dunn - - - - Neil Stewart</p>	<p>Eastern Area Coordinator Jamie Wilkinson Jing Hu Emma Turner Michael Small Richard Thornton Rachel Milton Matt Howard Emma Smith</p>	<p>Western Area Coordinator Jodie Taylor Jodie Taylor Rachel Myatt Inder Bains Kevin Bazaz Katrin Walters Saphy Salman</p>
<p>Pennine Area Coordinator Richard Goodwin Gemma Donovan Lynzie Dagg Eddy Thomas Jennifer DeVal Chris Barnes Kristy Link</p>	<p>Central Area Coordinator From 2007 Debbie Hallsworth</p>	<p>Annual Conference Organisers Roohill Yusuf & Wing Chung Tong Vicky Heald and Becky Haxell Sam Malton & Heena Bhakta Emma Sparkes & Bev Stevens James Wood & Inder Bains Richard Grygiel & Beth Harries Finlay Royle & Fionagh Ross</p>

Executive Elections Nomination Form

I have read and fully understood the 'So you want to be on the Exec' document.

I have read and fully understood the BPSA Constitution, Regulations and the Exec code of conduct, and if elected promise to abide by them.

If elected I will attend all Executive meetings, including the Executive changeover, except in exceptional circumstances.

Declarations of interest at time of elections- (*please tick*)

- I have nothing to declare
- I wish to declare the following

(all of the above information is true at the time of writing)

Candidates Name-
Year and School of Pharmacy-
Signature-

Proposer's Name-
Year and School of Pharmacy-
Signature-

Seconder's Name-
Year and School of Pharmacy-
Signature-