

BPSA Key Update September 2020

Dear members,

We have been working hard to ensure continuity to our core work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and we would like to give you all an update on the Association's direction forward. There are key updates in this communication which impact the Association and our members.

Extraordinary General Meeting Outcome Update

In June, the Association held an Extraordinary General Meeting, open to all members, in which two motions were debated and one was passed. The motion which passed is as follows:

"This Association believes that the 2019-20 Executive has the authority to make reasonable adjustments to the Executive and the Association, as agreed by the delegation at an EGM held during the COVID-19 pandemic, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic."

Following the passing of this motion, the Executive mandate was extended with the intention to hold online elections in September 2020, as published in our July 2020 update.

We are happy to announce that online elections to join the BPSA Executive will be held on 10th October 2020 as part of our [Virtual Annual Conference](#). You can [read more about how to run for a position](#) on the [announcements](#) page of our website. You should attend the conference if you would like to run for a position, the registration form for attending the conference can be found via the above links.

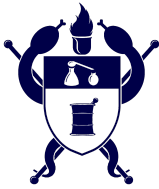
Executive

The BPSA Executive of 2019-20 has worked incredibly hard to ensure continuity throughout the pandemic, a time where advocacy for our members has reached a critical level of necessity.

There are now a number of positions open on the BPSA Executive, which will not be opened for co-option due to the upcoming elections. Two official positions and one non-official position on the BPSA Executive have been filled via co-option during August, including the position of Vice President, Graduate Officer and Engagement Officer. However, all of these positions will remain open to members to apply for during the upcoming elections.

Representatives

We thank the Association's national, international and competition representatives across all regions and School's of Pharmacy for their hard work over this mandate. We know many of our members are wondering how to apply to become a representative. The incoming Executive will be responsible for organising applications for new BPSA representatives, so if



you are interested in becoming a representative, then please look out for a further update in the weeks following elections.

Advocacy

Over the course of the pandemic, the Executive has continued to advocate for its members in key areas, including, but not limited to, the registration assessment and provisional registration status; participation in stakeholder meetings with regards to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; participation in stakeholder meetings around the interim foundation pharmacist programme; participation in stakeholder meetings with regards to reforms to initial education and training. The Association has also released its [Black Lives Matter statement](#) and committed to change in this area, this work will be handed to the next Executive in order to seek effective change. In-line with Association policies, we have also recently published our [mental health report](#), based on the recent survey conducted in association with Pharmacist Support.

We ask all members to complete two key surveys which are required for advocacy work to continue.

- 1) Initial Education and Training Reforms survey (soon to be published)
- 2) [Inclusion and Diversity Survey](#)

The findings of these surveys will be publicly reported and will **guide the Association and profession** for years to come. It is critical that your voice is heard by the whole profession, simply completing these surveys will ensure that you are properly advocated for.

Yours Sincerely,

On Behalf of the British Pharmaceutical Students' Association

Regan McCahill
President 2019 - 2020