Role description:

The Physiological Society defines ‘Early Career’ to be typically no more than 10 years of full-time equivalent professional experience. They should be non-tenured at the time of applying. This should be experience gained as part of a scientific career excluding time spent in full-time education. Time spent as a postgraduate student should not be included (e.g. Masters, PhD). Time spent as a post-doctoral researcher should be included. Years may be added to this total in respect to substantive reasons, which could include maternity/paternity leave, long-term sickness, or similar reasons.

The Early Career Elected Trustee is appointed at the Member Forum which is held during the Society’s Winter Celebratory event. The position runs for a period of four years and the Board meets four times per year (a mixture of in person, online and hybrid).

Trustees of The Physiological Society are elected by the membership to act as their representatives and to oversee the strategic management and governance of the organisation on their behalf. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for the overall strategy, governance, management, and Board policies of The Society, ensuring that the charitable objects for which it has been set up are met.

The administration and management are delegated to the Chief Executive who provides leadership to the charity and acts within the strategic policy and delegated authority framework laid down by the Board of Trustees. The main responsibility of Trustees is to hold the charity ‘in trust’ for current and future beneficiaries by collectively:

- ensuring that the charity has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving these
- being responsible for the performance of the charity and for its culture;
- ensuring the charity complies with all legal and regulatory requirements;
- acting as guardians of the charity’s assets, both tangible and intangible, taking all due care over their security, deployment, and proper application;
- ensuring the charity’s governance is of the highest possible standard and ensuring compliance with the Articles of Association, Charity and Company Law;
- ensuring due diligence and prudence in decision making to ensure actions are taken in the best interest of the charity;
- adhering to the Trustee Code of Conduct;
- using their specific skills, knowledge, or experience to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions.

Personal skills:

- understanding of the legal duties of a Trustee;
- an ability to act with impartiality, tact and diplomacy;
- ability to give considered, objective opinions and a willingness constructively challenge where necessary;

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<th>Date</th>
<th>To take office at the 2024 Member Forum (29 November 2024)</th>
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<td>Action</td>
<td>A maximum of 4 years</td>
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Early Career Trustee (ECT)

- willingness to act in the overall best interest of The Society, without conflict of interest and conflict of loyalty.
- ability to think creatively and strategically;
- a willingness and ability to devote the necessary time commitment, both to Committee and Board business and to respond to tight deadlines where necessary; *
- ability to work effectively as a member of a team and foster a collaborative environment.

* Candidates are asked to ensure they have permission from their university or institution before committing to the role.

A well-rounded board requires a diverse set of skills and backgrounds to provide the strategic guidance, oversight, and support necessary for the organisation to achieve its goals and make a positive difference to the visibility of physiology in an inclusive and sustainable manner.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Statement:

We are committed to actively promoting equity, diversity and inclusivity. To this end we would welcome approaches from individuals from underrepresented groups, including minoritised communities and applicants with a disability to better reflect the community we support and help broaden our perspectives.