Membership Committee

Volunteer members

Would you like to make a difference to wildlife and climate by joining the BES?

We are looking for BES members to join our Membership Committee in 2024. This is an exciting opportunity to help shape and direct the Society’s Membership offer in a way that best supports the delivery of our vision for a world where nature and people thrive.
About the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is responsible for developing our offer to members, helping to make sure that we are engaging and listening to our members and representing the different perspectives across the Globe.

The Committee maintains the development and implementation of our membership benefits and services and we explore ways of improving our membership experience. We also work closely with the editor of the membership magazine, The Niche, and other teams within the society to ensure we are engaging with our members in the best possible ways.

The Committee is supported by the BES membership team which comprises of a Membership Manager and Assistant. The committee meets twice a year and reports directly to Board of Trustees. The Committee is chaired by Prof Tim Coulson.
Who we’re looking for

We are interested to hear from people who have experience in one or more of following areas:

- Experience of working in the Global South.
- Knowledge of member engagement and retention strategies (this could be in any capacity, such as student engagement).
- Early career ecologists.

We are also interested in hearing from people from the Global Majority and Indigenous peoples and people working in areas other than universities, e.g. charities and environmental NGOs.

In return, we will offer opportunities to develop the following skills and experience:

- Influence the direction and priorities of the membership team, with the ability to input ideas which can shape the strategy and initiatives undertaken.
- Enhance your skills and professional development by taking part in a committee.
- Grow your professional network by working alongside likeminded ecologists.
- Exposure to governance and decision making within the BES, helping you build an understanding of how the Society operates.
Time involved

- New members of the Committee will be appointed for an initial term of three years, the maximum length of involvement is two terms (or 6 years).
- Members of the Committee are expected to attend two online meetings a year, usually held in March and September. Committee papers are shared before meetings for members to read, this typically takes an hour of your time.
- If travel is required to travel for committee activities, the BES will reimburse travel expenses.
- Membership Committee members can be based anywhere in the world.
- Meetings will take place between 9-5 within UK (GMT) business hours. Meetings are typically 2 hours and notice will always be given for attendance at meetings.
How to apply

Please click the green button ‘Apply for this job’ via our recruitment portal to submit:

Your CV

A covering letter - no more than 1x A4 side answering the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in this role and what would you like to get out of the experience? (300 words maximum)
2. What would you hope to achieve during your term of 3 years? (300 words maximum)

We ask these questions because we’re interested in hearing your reasons for taking part and how we could support you to get the most of the opportunity, along with what you’ll add to our committee.

Your equality and diversity information - this voluntary information helps us to assess the diversity of our recruitment and further improve processes in the future. It is not considered as part of the shortlisting process and is used to review our overall volunteer recruitment only.
Key Dates

Closing date: Please apply by 10 March 2024.

We will review your answers as part of your application and we may reach out to ask follow on questions if we need, this may be by email or a telephone/video call.

We will confirm applications by the end of March 2024.

If you have questions about this role or would like more information, please contact us and we will be happy to answer your questions. Please contact Katie Weston, Volunteer Officer on email katiew@britishecologicalsociety.org

Access

If you require access support, please contact Katie Weston (They/Them) Volunteer Officer via email at katiew@britishecological.org or via phone on +44 20 3994 8282