



BRITISH
ECOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

BES President

We are currently seeking an exceptional leader within the ecological community to head the British Ecological Society (BES) and its Board of Trustees.

Professor Bridget Emmett will be stepping down at the end of her term of office and we are seeking a replacement for her.

This is a vital and high-profile role which has a significant impact on the ecological community and on the delivery of our vision where nature and people thrive in a world inspired by ecology.

About the Role

The President holds the Board of Trustees and Executive Team to account for the Society's vision and mission. They provide inclusive leadership to the Board, ensuring each trustee fulfils their duties and responsibilities for the effective governance of the BES.

The President also supports, and, where appropriate, challenges the Chief Executive. They ensure that the Board of Trustees functions as a unit and works closely with the entire Executive of the BES to achieve agreed objectives.

The President acts as an ambassador and the public face of the BES in partnership with the Chief Executive.

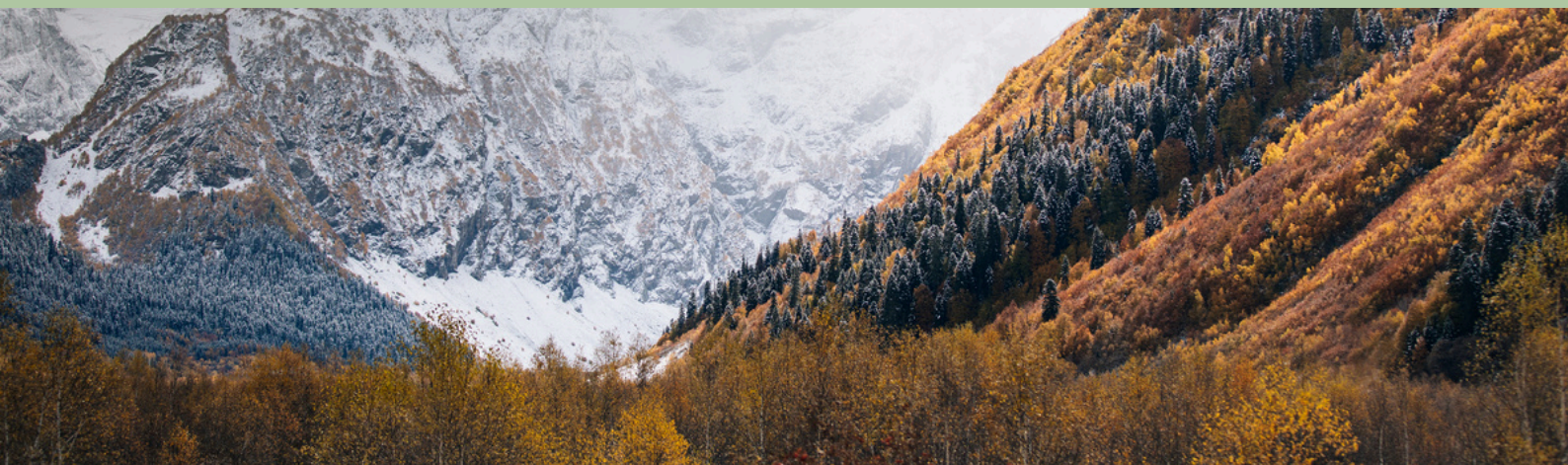
The BES Board of Trustees is the governing body for the Society, setting and maintaining the vision of the BES and developing a long-term strategy. The Board also creates and monitors policies to govern Society, ensures compliance with the governing document, ensures accountability and makes sure resources are used effectively. The Board works closely with the Chief Executive and the Senior Leadership Team.

The Board of Trustees comprises officers of the Society, including the President, Committee Chairs and four Ordinary Members. The four Ordinary Members represent specific ecological communities; early career, ecologists working outside HEIs and research institutes, and ecologists working in academic research plus a co-opted Member with skills in business development.

Who we're looking for

We value the diversity and wide range of perspectives that people from different backgrounds bring to their work and to ecology, and we are committed to ensuring all our committees and working groups represent the diversity of our membership. For this role we are especially interested in hearing from:

- Ecologists from under-represented & marginalised ethnicities;
- Women and individuals identifying as non-binary;
- LGBTQ+ communities;
- Ecologists with experience of socio-economic barriers;
- Ecologists with experience of managing their own or supporting others with physical or mental health conditions.



Time involved

There are four Board meetings a year as follows;

- **March** via video conference
- **June**, usually in two parts with a video conference meeting followed by an in person strategic away day
- **September** via video conference
- **December**, usually in person at the BES Annual Meeting with video attendance possible

The President is also a member of the BES Finance Committee that meets up to four times a year and chairs the Society's Equity and Diversity Advisory Group, which meets twice a year. These meetings are primarily online.

The BES has good video conferencing facilities enabling people to easily participate remotely in meetings, however, the BES will cover the travel expenses of trustees attending BES business meetings where needed.

The BES also covers the cost of registration and accommodation for Board members attending the Annual Meeting and BES Symposia.

New trustees have an induction session and there are opportunities to take part in trustee training.

The term of office is one year as President Elect, two years as President and one year as Past President.



How to apply

To apply for this vacancy, please click the green button 'Apply for this job' via our recruitment portal to submit a short CV (no more than two pages), and a 1-page statement outlining your interest in the role.

Applications will be reviewed by a panel and shortlisted candidates invited to interview.

A full description of the roles of a BES President and Board of Trustee member are available on the recruitment portal.

The successful candidate will be nominated by the BES Board of Trustees and stand for election by the membership through an electronic ballot. The results of the election are announced at the AGM which is held during the December Annual Meeting.

If you have any queries about the role please get in touch with the current President Bridget Emmett (bae@ceh.ac.uk)

or

Hazel Norman,

BES Chief Executive

hazel@BritishEcologicalSociety.org.

Key Dates

Closing date: Please apply by 10:00am BST 17th June 2024.

We will review applications 18th-19th June 2024

We will confirm invitations to interview by 21st June 2024

Recognising that applicants will have busy diaries, interviews will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time between 8-10th July

The interview panel will include

- Bridget Emmett, BES President
- Yadvinder Malhi, BES Past President
- Hazel Norman, BES Chief Executive Officer

