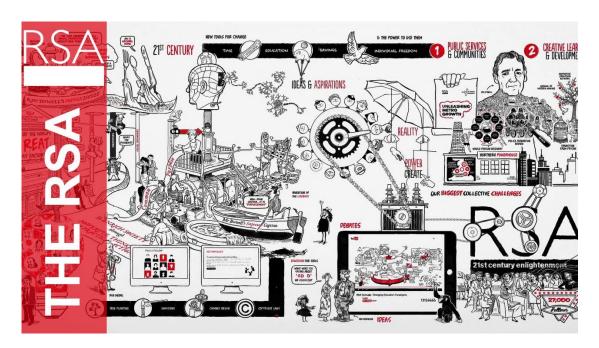
# **Elected Trustee**

# The RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts Manufactures & Commerce)

**May 2019** 



## **About The RSA**



## Introduction

The RSA is at the cutting edge of solving today's big issues: from working with the Prime Minister on the future of employment, and reforming the gig economy, developing pilots for basic income trials in Scotland, through to helping the Bank of England develop its plans to make our economy work for all the UK's regions and nations, as well as leading the UK's largest ever study of cultural learning.

Since 1754 the RSA has sought to unleash the human potential for enterprise and creativity. We have a strong history of finding new solutions to social challenges by acting on the very best ideas and rigorous research, drawing on the expertise of our networks and partners.

## **Our Work**

Central to the RSA's current work are the concepts of 'convening' and 'change making'. The RSA has also developed a distinctive approach to change: 'Think like a system, act like an entrepreneur' which now runs through most of our projects. Our work is based on rigorous research, innovative ideas and

projects, empowering citizens and partners, individually and collectively, alongside our 29,000 strong Fellowship. Our mission is: '21st century enlightenment; enriching society through ideas and action'. We believe that we all have creative capacities that, when understood and supported, can be mobilised to make the world a better place for everyone.

## **Current Strategy**

Through its ground-breaking work, the RSA is increasing its impact and influence by strengthening its focus and facilitating greater synergy within the organisation and externally.

Our research continues to focus on three key areas for change: Public Services & Communities, Economy, Enterprise & Manufacturing, and Creative Learning & Development. These have evolved into a strong portfolio of influential ideas, research, methodologies, funded projects and partnerships which are making a difference to policy, people and communities.



## **Our Impact**

The RSA is achieving significant influence across our three areas for change and beyond. In areas such as Inclusive Growth, Future of Work and Universal Basic Income (UBI) the RSA already provides evidence of substantial positive impact. Our ambition is to continue to grow. Through our internal rigor, engagement with Trustees and stakeholders, we are committed to achieving positive impact to bring about societal change and economic benefit. Our influence will be amplified by engaging with our unique network of global Fellows who share our drive for innovation and change.

## **Our Staff**

The RSA currently has around 120 staff across five departments:

- The Action and Research Centre combines rigorous research with practical experimentation across three themes: Public Services & Communities; Economy Enterprise & Manufacturing; Creative Learning & Development.
- Fellowship supports our 30,000 Fellows around the world who support and follow what we do. Many of our Fellows are active in creating social change themselves and we help them to achieve their ambitions.
- External Affairs covers media, digital, events, podcasts and facilities and hosts over 100 public events each year.
- Innovation and Development works to grow the RSA in both its funding and its impact. It has a remit to build partnerships and increase restricted and unrestricted income; scale the RSA's ideas globally; incorporate design into RSA thinking; and develop the models of change that maximise the organisation's impact.
- Operations provides commercial support, expertise and functions across finance, HR, legal, and IT; it
  aims to ensure staff have the information, infrastructure and systems to realise the RSA's vision.

## **Our Governance**

The RSA s a registered charity and a royal charter company. RSA's trustees are registered as trustees with the Charity Commission. RSA is governed by a board of trustees, which comprises 5 appointed Trustee (including the Chair, and two Co-Treasurers); 5 elected Trustees (including the deputy Chair) and two Trustees appointed by the Fellowship Council.

In addition to two trading subsidiarys, which have thier own board of directors, the RSA has a number of committees that report into the trustee board:

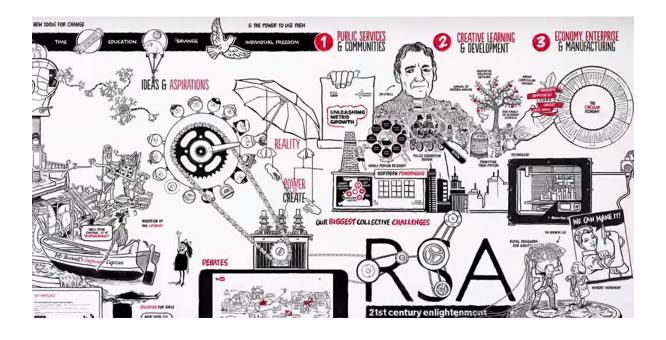
- Audit and Risk Committee Provides scrutiny on matters of audit, risk, pensions, investments and internal controls
- Nominations and Governance Panel- ensures an open and democratic election process;
   considers the skills and competencies of new and existing Fellows and Trustees
- Remunerations Committee responsible for setting the chief executive and directors' remuneration.

This role will sit on the Audit & Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the RSA Board. It has an overriding duty to independently report and make recommendations to the RSA Board on the Internal Budgets, Systems and Controls; the External Audit Process; Governance and Statutory Responsibilities; Risk and Investment, Legacies and Reserves. It may also deal with such matters as are delegated to it by the Board from time to time and acts in an advisory function to the Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer.

## **Diversity**

Valuing diversity is essential to the RSA's work. We aim to exemplify and promote equality legislation, recognising discrimination as a barrier to equality of opportunity, inclusion and human rights. All colleagues are required to ensure their behaviour is consistent with our policies. As an equal opportunities employer our commitment is to take positive measures to recruit people from underrepresented groups, and we actively encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds.

Registered as a charity in England and Wales no. 212424 and in Scotland no. SC03778



## **Role Description**

Role Title: Trustee

## **Role Summary**

Candidates interested in becoming a Trustee should be willing to actively support, promote and broaden the awareness of the work of the RSA and Fellows. A Trustee is a member of the Board of Trustees which is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, developing the organisations aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

This is a voluntary role and trustees receive no remuneration. Reasonable expenses can be claimed, in line with RSA's expense policy, for attendance at board and other meetings and RSA events necessary for the fulfilment of the treasurer's duties.

All Trustees of the RSA must be Fellows of the RSA.

## **Duties as a Trustee**

- Ensure that RSA complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation orregulations
- Ensure that RSA pursues its objects as defined in its governing document
- Ensure RSA applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects and does not spend money on activities which are not included in the objects, however worthwhile they may be
- Contribute actively to the board of trustees by giving firm strategic direction to the RSA, setting overall policy, defining goals, setting targets, and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- Safeguard the good name and values of the RSA.
- Ensure the financial stability of the RSA.
- Serve as an advocate for the organisation as required, including for specific issues or events. It is envisaged that the candidate will champion the role of diversity within the RSA.

## **Person specification**

## **Essential:**

- A Fellow of the RSA
- A commitment to the mission of the RSA
- A willingness to meet the minimum time requirement
- Integrity
- Strategic vision
- Good, independent judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- A willingness to speak their mind
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship

- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team and to take decisions for the good of the RSA.
   demonstrable interest in, and knowledge of social policy areas including economics, public services and education
- Empathy with the work of the RSA and an ability to quickly learn and understand about its content and aims.

## **Minimum Time commitment**

A Trustee is expected to attend all four trustees board meetings each year and additionally, an annual away day. All board meetings are held at our office in central London during office hours. In addition, a Trustee is expected to be fully involved in all related matters and be willing to take a role on at least one of the RSA's Committees or sub-groups.

All committee and trading board meetings occur during normal office hours.

Additional time will be required for reading papers and meetings-. A Trustee will receive a full induction and should expect to allocate a minimum half a day in London for this.

We estimate that the average minimum time commitment required will be two days each month.

## **Key Dates**

The closing date for receipt of applications is **9am 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.** Please note that we are unable to accept late or incomplete applications.

Any interviews under bye-law 3.14 are expected to take place on at the RSA House, WC2N 6EZ at a date to be arranged with shortlisted candidates.

## How to apply

The Trustee Board welcome therefore nominations by way of CV and accompanying letter setting out in a 250 election statement why they should be elected as a Trustee. In addition, applicants are also required to include the names and Fellowship membership numbers of ten Fellows who support their nomination.

Those standing for election and wishing to be considered for recommendation under bye-law 3.14 must additionally set out which of the criteria below they consider they meet with reference to their past experience.

Please send applications to the CEO's Office to nicholas.bull@rsa.org.uk.

#### Personal data

In line with GDPR, please remember to not mention anyone's information or details (e.g. referees) who have not previously agreed to their inclusion. Your submitted details will be shared with the panel who will shortlist the applicants for this role.

