

# Fellowship Expert Group

## Terms of Reference

### Scope and Purpose

The purpose of the Fellowship Expert Group is to assist the charity in planning, developing and undertaking activities that support the next generation of musculoskeletal researchers and overseeing the recommendation of career support awards. The Fellowship Expert Group is a sub-group of the three strategic funding Subcommittees of Disease, Treatment and Health.

### Terms of reference

The main duties of the Fellowship Expert Group are as follows:

- i. to help monitor the provision of UK musculoskeletal training and identify gaps in support, where additional career support activities could add value
- ii. to take the role of chair or vice chair of Fellowship Funding Panels from time to time, overseeing the award of individual fellowships and studentships
- iii. to advise the charity on the balance of career support activities across the three Subcommittees
- iv. to help devise strategies to attract the brightest and most enthusiastic scientists, clinicians, nurses and allied health professionals into musculoskeletal research
- v. to advise on strategies to support individuals at different stages of their careers, using knowledge of career paths for all relevant areas
- vi. to help Versus Arthritis engage and work with others to increase musculoskeletal research capacity in the UK through the identification of potential funding and/or strategic partnerships
- vii. to contribute to discussion papers and reports on career support for consideration by the Subcommittees, Charitable Purposes Committee and charity Executive
- viii. to take learnings from the three Subcommittees as well as their expert area in order to make recommendations to the charity
- ix. to support the annual fellows meeting and propose other career events as appropriate.

### Delegated Authority

The Fellowship Expert Group is a sub-group of the strategic funding Subcommittees across Disease, Treatment and Health, and will make recommendations to the charity Executive who have full delegated authority from the Board of Trustees to authorise funding, within agreed overall policies and procedures, and within budget, subject to the charity's schedule of authority, as may be amended from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

## Membership and Procedures

- i. The Fellowship Expert Group will consist of two representatives from each of the three strategic funding Subcommittees (across Disease Treatment and Health) and two current fellows or students, with further representation drawn from the College of Experts for additional or specific expertise as required.
- ii. Members will be recruited for their expertise and knowledge of academic career development. Expertise may include (but not limited to):
  - non-clinical careers in discovery research
  - clinical careers in discovery research
  - non-clinical careers in clinical and applied research
  - clinical careers in clinical and applied research
  - academic careers in orthopaedics
  - academic careers in primary care
  - academic careers for nurses and allied health professionals.
- iii. Fellow/student member's terms of reference will not include duties ii and viii.
- iv. The Fellowship Expert Group Chair will be a senior academic with expertise and knowledge of support and development for successful research and academic careers, but not necessarily within the musculoskeletal field.
- v. The Fellowship Expert Group Chair will be recruited with input from the Subcommittee Chairs and the charity staff/Executive. The Chair will be recruited via external advertisement or from within the Fellowship Expert Group by offering a 2nd term to a current member.
- vi. The Fellowship Expert Group will hold two face to face meeting per annum and teleconference contacts throughout the year. The agenda will be agreed between the Chair of the Fellowship Expert Group and the Research and Programmes Directorate.
- vii. Other Subcommittee activities will be kept to a minimum, unless otherwise requested by the Fellowship Expert Group member.
- viii. The attendance of three members including the Chair will constitute quorum.

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