

Role Description

Role Title:	Chair of the Global Ophthalmology Committee
Reports to:	Council
Term of office:	Four years, non-renewable The post is unpaid, travel and other costs are reimbursed in line with the RCOphth expenses policy
Time commitment	There are two remote committee meetings a year There are four Council meetings a year (typically two will be in-person, two will be virtual) and the post holder is expected to attend at least two meetings. The post holder is expected to liaise with committee members, RCOphth staff and the chairs of standing committees and much of this work can be undertaken electronically.

Background information

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) champions excellence in the practice of ophthalmology. We are the only professional membership body for medically qualified ophthalmologists and for those who are undergoing specialist training to become ophthalmologists, with over 4,000 members worldwide.

The College acts as the voice of the profession, we set the curriculum and examinations for trainee ophthalmologists, provide training in eye surgery, maintain standards in the practice of ophthalmology, and promote research and advance science in the specialty. Ophthalmologists are at the forefront of eye health services because of their extensive training and experience in the area.

The Royal Charter sets out that the College is to ‘further instruction and training in Ophthalmology, both in the United Kingdom and Overseas’.

Approximately 500 (15%) members are located overseas; this percentage has fallen from around a quarter several years ago. The largest groups are in Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, India, Canada, South Africa and Jamaica.

The main focus of international activity has been on improving education and training in Ophthalmology worldwide. This has included setting up exams in Egypt, India, Malaysia and Singapore, and delivering training in partnership with The College of Ophthalmology of Eastern Central and Southern Africa (COESCA).

Main Purpose and Deliverables

- To work closely with the senior management team and committee chairs to agree and deliver the RCOphth's strategy in relation to international members and RCOphth work undertaken overseas.
- Grow the international membership base
- Support and provide information to UK members wishing to work or volunteer overseas
- To act as the focus for the RCOphth LINK programmes and to work in partnership with both government and non-government organisations to develop collaborative business cases and grant applications for external funding.
- Liaise with chairs of standing committees and the senior management team to improve eye services through training and examinations.

Main Areas of Work and Responsibility

- To advise on the composition and membership of the Global Ophthalmology Committee, participating in the selection of members
- Agree the detailed work plan for the Global Ophthalmology Committee in consultation with the President and Chief Executive
- To chair the meetings of the Global Ophthalmology Committee.
- To strengthen support for international members and fellows and to support members as they undertake international work
- To work in partnership with other UK charities and international agencies to improve education and training in Ophthalmology worldwide
- To promote and encourage participation in the LINKS programme and other approved international ventures
- To respond to queries from members and other professional bodies to offer support to refugee ophthalmologists
- To develop governance and co-ordination around international work to ensure College processes are in place and adequate – working with all College committee champions
- To present the benefits of international volunteering and collaboration to the membership and a wider public

Key Working Relationships

- Senior Management Team – to develop a coherent strategy
- Committee Members – sharing information, working collaboratively, providing advice
- College Members – providing information and support
- Other Royal Colleges – networking, collaborating on joint projects
- External stakeholders, including the International Centre for Eye Health, sharing information, working collaboratively, providing advice information and support

Scope and Accountability

Legal, regulatory and compliance responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with health and safety procedures, including prompt reporting of any defects, risks or potential hazards • Compliance with the RCOphth's data protection and privacy policies
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Person Specification

	Criteria	Essential (E) Desirable (D)
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists in good standing 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Licence to Practise 	E
Knowledge, Qualifications and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of chairing committees 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of a significant leadership role 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrable understanding of the issues facing international ophthalmology 	E
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident communicator with written and verbal communication skills 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good organisational, prioritisation and time management skills and meets deadlines in an accurate manner 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively listens to what others say, responding positively in all interactions 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to build relationships and rapport, responding to enquires in a timely manner 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to respond flexibility and adapt approach in response to changing policy and changing priorities 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts with honesty and integrity 	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to equality and diversity and understanding of how this applies to own area of work 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to own continuing professional development 	E	