

UEG Elections 2021

Job description and personal requirements for the position of Chair of the Research Committee

I. Role of the Chair of the Research Committee

The European Union (EU) plays an important role in improving the understanding, prevention and management of diseases through various initiatives including research funding programmes. Developing a strong presence in the EU arena is thus a key activity for European umbrella organisations.

The Research Committee aims at encouraging innovation and excellence in research by supporting research facilitation and cooperation in the field of digestive health. The Committee closely monitors the development of European Research funding schemes and collaborates with Brussels-based stakeholders to advocate in favour of more research funds for digestive health.

Tasks of the Research Committee:

- Providing evidence and advice to research funding bodies on priority areas, in close liaison with UEG Member Societies and using the UEG White Book which will be published in 2022
- Facilitating research and cooperation through the Researchers' Network, a dedicated network and platform for exchange on EU funded research
- Promoting awards, prizes, and fellowships to support innovation and excellence in digestive health research
- Supporting researchers at different career levels in digestive health via various initiatives
- In cooperation with the Public Affairs Committee, engaging in EU research policy, particularly in the development of future research framework programmes, indulging the Horizon Europe's annual working programmes and topical priorities set by the European Commission and engaging with Biomed Alliance and other Brussels-based stakeholders

The role of the Chair of the Research Committee is to lead the Research Committee and to maintain and encourage active contribution from colleagues. He/she is responsible to prepare a yearly business plan including a detailed budget together with the Research Policy Manager.

The Chair of the Research Committee is a member of UEG Council and through this role fulfils the responsibilities of Council Members as defined by Article 12 of the UEG Statutes. He/She reports to Council and the Meeting of Members and attends Executive Committee meetings upon invitation to agree on strategic directions.

II. Required knowledge, qualification and experience

The candidate must

1. have profound experience and an excellent track record in (pan-European) digestive health research and funding.
2. show extensive knowledge of the European funding landscape.
3. command a broad experience in gastroenterology and related fields.
4. interact with politicians and be able to engage with lay audiences and present complex information in simple terms.
5. be able to demonstrate strategic and diplomatic leadership skills, and the ability to work across organisational and cultural boundaries.
6. maintain good relationships with UEG Member Societies, functionaries, and other stakeholders and be well acknowledged by the digestive health community.

A detailed account of how each of these 6 requirements will be fulfilled by the candidate must be given in the mission statement (refer to each specific numbered point above). Please limit your statement to max. three A4 pages.

Furthermore, the position of Chair UEG Research Committee requires a very good command of spoken and written English.

III. Volunteer commitment

The candidate has to attend and chair at least two committee meetings a year (virtual or face-to-face), attend and report during four Council meetings and the annual Meeting of Members and other business meetings or conference calls.

Most importantly, the candidate must be capable and willing to spend a substantial amount of time for this position, even though it is on a volunteer basis. This includes regular visits and interaction with the Research Policy Manager as well as meetings with EU institutions and politicians in Brussels.

IV. Term of office

Following Article 11 of the UEG statutes, Chairs of the Committees are elected already one year before the term of their predecessor comes to an end to allow a smooth handover of business. The Chair Elect will assist the currently serving Chair for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 and will then start his/her regular four-year term of office on January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026 as Chair UEG Research Committee, which includes a seat on UEG Council.

V. How to apply

The right to nominate candidates for eligible Council positions remains with UEG Member Societies, including both specialist and national societies. Interested colleagues are requested to seek support from a relevant society for their application and to use the online application form.

Deadline for applications: September 3, 2021

Mandatory documents for upload with the online application:

- Mission statement referring to the outlined requirements (max. three A4 pages)
- Curriculum Vitae (max. one A4 page)
- Supporting letter from at least one UEG Member Society

UEG unites individuals of all genders, ages, backgrounds, ethnicities, abilities, and experiences. We are proud to have achieved increased participation of women and young talents in the last few years. We continue to strive for equality of opportunity and inclusion and invite a diverse field of applicants for this position.

Candidates will have the opportunity to present themselves on occasion of the Meeting of Members (virtual), Saturday, October 2, 2021. Elections will be held via electronic vote after the meeting.

For further information, we recommend that candidates view the [Strategic Plan 2019-2022](#) and the [Statutes](#).