

The British Society of Soil Science (BSSS) is seeking a new Trustee to join its Board. To add to our Board's existing skillset, we are looking for a Trustee who can bring knowledge of digital communications to enhance our online presence increasing our reach and external funding.

The British Society of Soil Science (BSSS) is an established international membership organisation committed to the study of soil in its widest aspects. The society brings together those working within academia, practitioners implementing soil science in industry and all those working with, or with an interest in soils.

## *Trustee*

The Society is a registered charity and the role of a Trustee includes;

- Ensuring the Society uses its resources to pursue its seven priorities:
  1. Seeking to publicise the key issues for the soil science community
  2. Promoting change through knowledge exchange across all aspects of soil science
  3. Hosting conferences and meetings focused on soils
  4. Supporting and encouraging the education of soil science
  5. Inspiring the future generations of soil scientists
  6. Ensuring high standards of professional practice for those working with soils
  7. Leading on the social and environmental responsibilities of a contemporary society
- Ensuring the Society complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Providing firm strategic direction to the Society, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets, and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the Society, and ensuring effective and efficient administration and governance
- Ensuring the financial stability of the Society, protecting and managing property and assets, and ensuring proper investment of the charity's funds
- As a member of the Board, of which there are four meetings of each per year, provide advice and guidance to members.

It is expected that successful delivery in the post would require 10 - 20 days per annum.

The usual term of a Trustee within the Society is a minimum of three years and maximum of six years.

The role is unremunerated, although reasonable expenses will be paid.

## *Digital Communications*

To complement the skill sets of our existing Board members, we are looking for a Trustee with expertise in digital communications.

The post-holder will be expected to play an active role within the Society and provide leadership, including working with the Executive Officer to:

- providing strategic support relating to the Society's digital communications, specifically to increase reach amongst priority stakeholder groups and increase visibility to secure external funding
- advise the Board of any activities which should be considered within the Society's strategic plan
- develop and update policies and procedures
- support the Trustees in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities including suggesting appropriate training and development
- Represent the Society at functions, meetings and in the media in line with the agreed strategy
- Maintain the Trustees' commitment to board renewal and succession planning, in line with best practice.

The post holder will not be expected to undertake day-to-day activities on behalf of the Society, but will be expected to contribute to defining and monitoring the Society's strategic progress, and the overall health of the organisation.

### *Person Specification*

- Thorough understanding of digital communications and be at a senior level within their own organisation
- Thorough understanding of strategic governance within an organisation, preferably a charity
- Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Commitment to the organisation and its objectives
- Willingness to devote the required time and effort to fulfil their duties as a trustee
- Strategic vision
- Good independent judgement and the ability to think creatively
- Prepared to express their opinion, whilst working as part of a team.

It is not expected that candidates are a member of the Society, however applicants should have an interest in science, the natural world and climate change.

### *To Apply*

Please submit your CV and covering letter setting out your suitability and experience for the role to Sarah Garry, Executive Officer via [sarahgarry@soils.org.uk](mailto:sarahgarry@soils.org.uk) as soon as possible.

Candidate interviews will take place and will be arranged at a mutually convenient time.

The Society's Board will recommend their proposed candidate and an Extraordinary General Meeting will take place in autumn/winter 2023. The successful applicant will be welcome to take up their post immediately following the EGM.

For an informal discussion about the role and its responsibilities please contact Sarah Garry, Executive Officer via [sarahgarry@soils.org.uk](mailto:sarahgarry@soils.org.uk) or Jacqueline Hannam, President via [j.a.hannam@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.hannam@cranfield.ac.uk).

**British Society of Soil Science** Cranfield University, Building 42a, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AL

T: +44 (0)1234 752 983 F: +44 (0)1234 752 970 E: [admin@soils.org.uk](mailto:admin@soils.org.uk) W: [www.soils.org.uk](http://www.soils.org.uk)