

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO BES COUNCIL

Please help us elect three people to BES Council. We have four candidates who have put their names forward and three places to fill. Please read through those standing for election below and we will issue instructions on how to place your vote.

Your support is very much appreciated - thank you.



Satnam Singh Virdee

BDS, MFDS RCSEd, PGCert DentEd, FHEA

Proposer: Dr Phillip Tomson
Seconder: Prof Philip Lumley

It would be a privilege to serve on the BES council. Winning this organisation's Harty (2014), Foundation Dentist (2015) and GDP (2016) prizes, as well as being supported to present my doctoral research abroad where I was awarded the ESE international research prize (2017), has fuelled my passion for Endodontology. Having regularly attended BES meetings for over 6 years, I have developed many relationships with members. As a Clinical Lecturer/Speciality Registrar in Restorative Dentistry at the Birmingham Dental Hospital and School, and a part-time endodontic practitioner in the West-Midlands, I feel I can give something meaningful back to the BES who have been instrumental in helping me attain these positions. I am particularly passionate about raising awareness of the benefits/support the BES can offer junior practitioners in both primary and secondary care. I feel my own experiences with the society, as well as being involved in endodontic teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates, make me well suited for engaging with this cohort to promote Endodontology and raise membership. I am also fortunate to be currently researching novel biological strategies for treating apical periodontitis as part of my PhD. Some of this work has led to publications in peer-reviewed journals and involved collaborations with international colleagues who could potentially participate in future society events. For the above reasons, I feel keen and confident to take on the responsibilities of this important role and would be grateful for your support.



Dhiraj Arora

BDS MJDF RCS(Eng) PG Cert CE MSc (Endo)

Proposer: Prof B S Chong
Seconder: Dr Pratik Shah

I graduated from Guy's, King's and St Thomas' Dental Institute, completing my Bachelor of Dental Surgery in 2007. In 2009, I completed my postgraduate examinations and gained The Diploma of Membership of the Joint Dental Faculties at The Royal College of Surgeons of England. I completed my Master of Science in Endodontic Practice with Merit at Barts and The Royal London. My postgraduate training has equipped me with the latest knowledge and skills required to provide high quality and evidence based endodontic treatment. I am a member of the BES and ESE. My primary research interest is in the use of CBCT and digital imaging in Endodontics. I enjoy helping patients and educating other dental practitioners. My keen interest in teaching, led me to gain a Postgraduate Certificate in Dental Education from Oxford Brookes University. I have been actively involved in the mentorship of newly qualified dentists and am an experienced Educational Supervisor with over eight years' experience within the London Deanery. This, along with being an Honorary Lecturer in Endodontics (QMUL), allows me to combine my enthusiasm for Endodontic treatment and teaching. My passion is endodontics and my purpose is to help other dental professionals gain confidence with their endodontic treatment. I believe that by being given an opportunity to become a Council Member, I will be able to help inspire other dentists to learn and grow in the field of endodontics, whilst also being able to serve the profession that has given me so much.



Simon Stone

BDS MFDSRCSEd

Proposer: Prof John Whitworth
Seconder: Prof Giles McCracken

Simon is a Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Endodontics at Newcastle University, he is the Director of Clinical Studies and leads the clinical aspects of the undergraduate programmes at Newcastle as well as providing a consultant led endodontic referral service. He is an educational supervisor for specialty training in endodontics and is an accomplished undergraduate and postgraduate educator. He is currently an external examiner for a number of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes around the UK. He is an active researcher and with an interest in diagnostics and the interface between acute and chronic pain, he has published research and opinion papers and co-authored a number of book chapters related to Endodontics, restorative dentistry and dental trauma. He is a previous speaker at a BES conference and attends the biannual Teachers of Endodontology Group meetings. He has an active interest in making sure that the specialty and society progress, and education sits very much at the heart of this.

He would welcome the opportunity to represent the membership and become involved with the business of BES council.



Risha Patel

BDS (Lond) MJDF RCS (Eng) MClintDent (Endo)
MEndo RCS (Edin)

Proposer: Dr Daniel Vaz de Souza
Seconder: Dr Sanjeev Bhandari

I am a Specialist Endodontist, completing my training at King's College London in 2019. I spend part of my time as an endodontic practitioner in Central and South London and the rest of my time involved with endodontic teaching on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The BES has been an integral part of my career, supporting me as a newly qualified GDP looking for further training in endodontics and guiding me through this training onto qualification. From attendance at meetings to the networking opportunities, I have been able to develop my passion for endodontics and am extremely grateful. I am now in a position to make a valuable contribution to the society which has provided me with so much. I am passionate about the education and development of junior practitioners, from both primary and secondary care, in the field of endodontology. I would hope to engage with the 'Early Career's Group' to see how we can support the needs of this cohort of the membership further. As one of the first Early Career's representatives for the FGDP National Board, serving a four-year term, alongside my current role as Director for the South East and South West Thames Division of the FGDP, my experience in understanding the changing needs of junior practitioners and implementing change through organised programmes and supported clinical networks will help to strengthen the engagement I could provide. I would be most grateful for your support and would take on the responsibilities with the same passion and motivation that has seen me pursue my career in the field of endodontology to date.