

Council and Committee elections 2024

Profiles of nominees

Council elections

President

1. President (unopposed)

Professor Dame Jane Francis

Our planet is changing fast with impacts for all its people. The Society has a crucial role to play in education and advocacy to find a more sustainable way to live in balance with our planet.

As an Earth scientist my expertise is in the reconstruction of past environments and climate change, particularly in the polar regions. I hold a leadership position as Director of the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) and am responsible for the delivery of a clear strategy for the future, world class science, financial sustainability, productive relationships with a wide range of stakeholders, and engagement with public and policy makers. My values include equality and inclusiveness, as well as a drive towards more sustainable operations.

I hope my leadership experience can support the Society in this period of change and the exciting opportunities it provides, through increasing its membership, its sustainability, and its influence.

Website: www.bas.ac.uk/profile/janefr/

Education

2. Vice President (unopposed)

Alan Parkinson

I am currently Head of Geography at King's Ely Prep. I have over 30 years of teaching experience – having previously worked for the Geographical Association in curriculum leadership. I've received awards for teaching, writing and advocacy including the RSGS Tivy Medal in 2013 and Ordnance Survey Award from the Society in 2008. I've written numerous textbooks, led hundreds of CPD sessions, and written resources for over 50 organisations. I would bring significant high-level experience and knowledge gained from time spent working in primary and secondary phases of education, 12 years of ERASMUS project experience and significant advocacy work. I've worked as an Ordnance Survey GetOutside Champion supporting outdoor education, was a UCL Fawcett Fellow for 2022-23, researching curriculum making, and the pinnacle of my career to date was to serve as President of the Geographical Association for 2021-22 which taught me further about governance, the importance of Trustee roles and policy work.

Professional Practice

3. Councillor (unopposed)

David Wood

I am a chartered economic geographer working in the Civil Service. My job is to bring a geographical approach to the design and delivery of a range of complex public policy problems and I have worked across six government departments, including leading the first use of live maps with the Cabinet of the UK Government to solve a policy problem.

present). She has served as Head of Department of Sheffield Geography (2019-2024). Jenny led on devising the EDI principles at Sheffield. Jenny is keen widen who belongs and flourishes in the discipline, and in what is considered geographical fieldwork, research and teaching.

Dr Myles Harris

Health geography is a common thread through my research and higher education career. My background is nursing, with most of my clinical experience as an expedition medic. My Masters was in Education and my PhD in Risk and Disaster Reduction, which included researching the health and geographic risks for military deployment to humanitarian crises. I am currently the fieldwork lead at UCL, advising on risk mitigation during undergraduate field trips through to professorial research programmes.

As a researcher and educator of geography and cognate disciplines, I would like to use my skills and expertise in public outreach, values-based leadership, and senior charity management as an active member of the Research and Higher Education Committee. Examples of my experience at national level include (1) strategic engagement and communication in my professional and charitable roles, (2) leading lecture series and university teams, and (3) representing organisations in public and policy engagement.

6. Chair of Conference for 2025 (unopposed)

Professor Pat Noxolo

Professor Pat Noxolo is Chair in Postcolonial Geographies at the University of Birmingham. Her research uses literary, discursive and arts-based approaches to bring together the study of culture and in/security. She is a committee member of the RACE group, former chair of the Society for Caribbean Studies and former co-editor of *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and was awarded the Society's 2021 Murchison Award.

Pat Noxolo has led two major interdisciplinary international networks around culture and in/security, funded by AHRC and Leverhulme Trust. She is currently co-lead of the Stuart Hall Archive Project, at the University of Birmingham. She has organised and chaired more than 10 international conferences and has given numerous keynote lectures. Pat co-initiated and co-organises the Fi Wi Road annual internships for Black Geography undergraduates, and is a leading voice in the field of Black Geographies.