

# Criteria for AHCS Professional Council Membership

Version 3.0

19 September 2017

Doc Ref #060

## Criteria for AHCS Professional Council Membership

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The Terms of Reference of the AHCS Professional Council State that;

*“Applications from new healthcare science professional bodies to join the Council will be considered by the President and the Council. It will be expected that any professional body which represents healthcare science, and meets the criteria set out in this document, will be welcome to join.”*

### Definitions

Healthcare Science: this is defined as a broad, generic term for a field of healthcare which, as defined by the National School for Healthcare Science (NSHCS), encompasses over 50 areas of applied science that support diagnosis and treatment.

Healthcare Science Professional Body: This is defined as an organisation representing 2 or more healthcare professionals who practice in a science based discipline, who have a representative lead (chair/president) and can fill the majority of the following criteria;

- (i) a nonprofit organisation.
- (ii) seek to further a particular profession or represent the interests of individuals engaged in that profession.
- (iii) a group of people in a learned occupation who are entrusted with maintaining control or oversight of the legitimate practice of the occupation.
- (iv) a body acting to safeguard the public interest.
- (v) involved in the development and monitoring of professional educational programs, the updating of skills, and development of certification which indicates that a person possesses qualifications in the subject area.
- (vi) development of skills to ensure professional standards and competencies are maintained

Healthcare Science Learned Society: is defined as an organisation with a significant proportion of healthcare professionals that exist to promote an academic discipline, profession, or a group of related disciplines in a healthcare science and can fill the majority of the following criteria;

- (i) membership is open to all.
- (ii) membership requires possession of some qualification, or may be an honour conferred by election.
- (iii) a non-profit organisation, and can be professional associations.
- (iv) their activities include holding regular conferences for the presentation and discussion of new research results and publishing or sponsoring academic journals in their discipline.
- (v) involved in the development and monitoring of professional educational programs, the updating of skills, and development of certification which indicates that a person possesses qualifications in the subject area.
- (vi) development of skills to ensure professional standards and competencies are maintained

### Divisions of healthcare science

- Life sciences
- Physical sciences
- Physiological sciences
- Clinical Bioinformatics

A proposal for membership must be fully supported by paid up members of the Council.

Full Member of AHCS Professional Council: This is a professional body or learned society in healthcare science (as

defined previously) that fulfills the following criteria;

- (i) is a fully paid up member of the Council (based on the levy per member criteria agreed).
- (ii) has a senior representative (ideally chair or president) of the organisation who attends Council at least annually.
- (iii) provides up to date contact details for the organisation to the AHCS administration.
- (iv) signs up to and abides by the Terms of Reference of AHCS Professional Council.
- (v) confidential issues can be agreed by members of the council for limited dissemination
- (vi) may attend Council Private Meetings.
- (vii) is recorded with AHCS administration as having full membership with voting rights.

Observer Member of AHCS Professional Council: This is a professional body or learned society in healthcare science (as defined previously) that fulfils the following criteria;

- (i) is **NOT** a fully paid up member of the Council.
- (ii) has a senior representative (ideally chair or president) of the organisation who attends Council.
- (iii) has a representative in attendance at some of Council meetings
- (iv) provides up to date contact details for the organisation to the AHCS administration.
- (v) signs up to and abides by the Terms of Reference of AHCS Professional Council.
- (vi) agrees that issues discussed by the Council will be disseminated as minutes and documents from Council to relevant members of their professional body.
- (vii) has **NO voting rights**
- (viii) is recorded with AHCS administration as a professional body with observer status only.
- (ix) lay members cannot attend the private meetings and have no voting rights

These are guidelines which are subject to the final decision of the council by majority vote.



19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

..... Date.....

**Signed by AHCS President on behalf of AHCS Council**