

ASiT Regional Representation



35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3PE
Telephone: 0207 973 0301
Fax: 0207 430 9235
Web: www.asit.org
Email: info@asit.org

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Authors

Mr. Simon Gibson

ASiT Vice-President

Mr. Roddy O'Kane

ASiT Past Vice-President

Mr. Jonathan Wild

ASiT Honorary Secretary

1 Background

ASiT is the second largest surgical specialty association in the UK, with over 2200 members, and is the fastest growing surgical specialty organisation.

ASiT members come from all nine surgical specialties. ASiT is the only body in the UK to represent trainees at both Core and Higher Surgical Training levels.

ASiT functions through the input of its specialty representatives and regional representatives serving the needs of trainees beyond its formal membership

ASiT represents the views of its membership through representation on the councils of the Surgical Royal Colleges, ISCP, JCST, and numerous other working parties and committees.

ASiT is **independent** to the Surgical Royal Colleges, and is run *by* trainees, *for* trainees.

The Association of Surgeons in Training (ASiT) is a Registered Charity (No.274841), which was established in 1976 as a forum for senior registrars to meet socially and discuss training matters.

The ASiT Council has evolved over years and consists of a core committee, our regional representatives and our specialty representatives.

The committee members comprise an executive committee of the President and two Vice-Presidents, Past President, Director of Education, Treasurer, Secretary, Year book editor/s and Webmaster.

Regional representatives provide a local point of contact with ASiT.

ASiT represents all surgical specialities (with the exception of higher orthopaedic trainees who are represented by BOTAs) and it is only with collaboration and co-operation that we further excellence in surgical training

2 Regional Representative structure

Regional representatives make up a significant component of the ASiT council.

There are currently 25 regions represented which are closely aligned to the Schools of Surgery and post graduate deaneries.

The 25 regions currently represented are:

:

- Eastern
- East Midlands - North
- East Midlands - South
- Kent, Sussex, & Surrey
- London - North East Thames
- London - North West Thames
- London - South East Thames
- London - South West Thames
- Mersey
- Northern
- Northern Ireland
- North West
- Oxford
- Peninsula
- Republic of Ireland
- Scotland – North
- Scotland – South
- Scotland – East
- Scotland - West
- Severn
- Wales
- Wessex
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire - North
- Yorkshire - South

3 Appointment of Regional Representatives

The preferred method of appointment of Regional Representatives is by a process of open nomination and election by trainees within that region, through an organised vote. Appointments in this manner should be informed, in writing, to the ASiT council by the Regional Trainee Organisation.

It is a requirement that candidates who wish to stand for election are an active member of ASiT.

We recommend a term of office of 2 years for an elected representative

Where no local mechanism exists for election of regional representative the ASiT council shall appoint to the position.

In such circumstances applicants will provide a Personal Statement that will include:

- Name
- Email
- Contact phone number
- ASiT membership number
- Training Programme
- Stage of training
- Statement in support of application
 - Committee/managerial experience
 - Teaching experience
 - What they can bring to ASiT
 - How they intend to fulfill their roles

The council shall review these and vote. It would be expected that the newly appointed regional representative would set up a local mechanism for election of future representatives.

It is expected that the outgoing Regional Representative should be the returning officer for the election of the next representative.

Where there is a dispute in relation to local elections the matter should be brought to the council who will review the situation and uphold/reject the complaint and make recommendations. The council's decision will be final in this situation.

ASiT is committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes application forms from all suitably qualified applicants irrespective of religious belief, gender, race, disability, political opinion, age, marital status, sexual orientation or whether or not they have dependents.

4 Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Representatives

Regional representatives are responsible for representing and reporting issues in relation to surgical training for trainees in all surgical specialties within their region. They will represent all ASiT members within that region. This includes:

- Medical student members
- Foundation trainees
- Cores surgical trainees
- Specialty trainees/ Higher surgical trainees

There are responsibilities both to the council and to the region represented.

ASiT Council

Attendance of at least 50% of the bi-monthly council meetings. A deputy should be sent when not attending.

Submission of a regional training report for the ASiT Yearbook.

Contribution to the Annual General Meeting by helping with exhibitions, meeting guests, judging abstracts, raising sponsorship.

Availability to take on further roles within the organisation (see websitenational representatives).

Regional Representation

Encourage new membership of ASiT in your region

Represent ASiT to the higher surgical training committees in your region, preferably by direct representation, or otherwise by formal liaison with the Trainee representative on that committee.

Ensure adequate representation for basic/core surgical trainees in your region, including attendance at the BST training committee.

Organise at least one local ASiT meeting/course per year for trainees in your region.

Attend foundation year meeting to assess training needs and promote ASiT.

Attend local medical school to deliver lecture on a career in surgery, and promote ASiT.

Set up a local mechanism for election of future representatives.

Regional representatives should submit a document to the committee outlining their progress with the above objectives by December of each year

ASiT requires regional representatives to be committed to the principles and values of public service. These principles are:

Selflessness
Integrity
Objectivity
Accountability
Openness
Honesty
Leadership

As a council member you share responsible for making sure that the organisation sticks to its aims and objectives as detailed in the Constitution.

A good committee member possesses:

Corporate Governance – Experience of the principles of corporate governance, including risk management and change management and working effectively as part of a management committee. Has a good understanding of the organisation, what it does and how it does it. Agrees to stick to the majority decision.

Commitment to the Role – Having a knowledge and experience of the surgical training environment in which they are making a contribution. Commitment to preparing for and attending meetings

Strategic thinking – Making a significant contribution to the strategic direction of ASiT.

Making an impact with others – Developing and maintaining cooperative working relationships to achieve high standards of service and results.

Supports fellow committee members.

Analytical thinking – Experience of making decisions and solving problems in a team and organisational environment.

Acts as an advocate for the organisation making a constructive contribution to the work of the council and bringing insight and original thought to group discussion.