

## **The Protocols for Election from the Electoral College to the EECERA Board of Trustees**

(reviewed and updated June 2015)

The following rules are in place to guide these elections:

1. All current registered Members of the Electoral College can vote and also can submit themselves for candidacy in the election
2. To be accepted onto the annual register of the Electoral College, members of the Association must have:
  - (a) paid their membership fee for the current year;<sup>i</sup>
  - (b) been notified of their potential membership of the Electoral College by the Trustee designated by the Board for collating the membership of the Electoral College<sup>ii</sup>
3. Those who are eligible and wish to stand for election must have two people from the Electoral College to support them (formally called a 'proposer' and a 'seconder'). Proposers and seconds can act in this capacity for only one candidate in any one year. Current Trustees may not act as either 'proposer' or 'seconder' for any candidate.
4. Candidates shall submit to the President one month before the AGM, a short manifesto (1 to 2 pages). This should include their current role, some professional biographical details, a recent photograph and a brief outline of their ideas for future development and what they would bring to the Board of Trustees. Their manifesto should also include the names of their proposer and seconder.
5. Notification of intention to stand for election and the necessary documentation should be submitted to the President one month before the AGM so that it may be circulated to Electoral College members before the vote is taken.
6. The meeting of the Electoral College is scheduled during the preconference and takes place only when vacancies arise on the Board.

All elections take place by secret ballot and there is no provision for proxy votes (voting by authorisation). Voters place a cross (X) on the pre-printed ballot paper against the names of the candidates they choose. Voters will be able to place as many crosses as there are vacant posts, (e.g. if there are three vacant posts, voters will be able to exercise three votes). Where a ballot paper has more than the permitted crosses it will be deemed null and void. Only one vote per candidate will be counted. Where a voter places more than one cross on their ballot paper against the same candidate, only one vote will be counted.

Votes are counted by the designated official(s) usually the Vice President, and any candidate scoring above 50% of the vote is elected. This candidate is then elected to the Board of Trustees to serve for three years. When a candidate having won a vacancy is appointed and yet some vacancies still are unfilled because not enough candidates reached the required 50+%, the remaining candidates proceed to a second vote.

From the candidates who do not having enough votes to win a vacancy, the candidate with the lowest figure withdraws and another ballot takes place immediately for the remaining candidates. If two or more candidates share the lowest figure, a blind lottery drawn by the President decides who amongst the lowest sharing candidates should withdraw before the next vote. This process is repeated until all vacancies are filled.

7. To ensure the Board reflects its European heritage, all trustees shall be European by birth or located in Europe in their place of work during their period in office. Further, to ensure balance in the composition of the Board, there shall be no more than three Trustees working or residing in any one country, at the same time, during their period of service on the Board of Trustees.

EECERA Special Interest Groups (limited to no more than two per SIG), and former EECERA Conference Chairs.

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<sup>i</sup> The condition of 'being a member of EECERA' can be fulfilled by payment at the EECERA desk before the start of the Annual General Meeting.

<sup>ii</sup> The Electoral Board is comprised of current and former members of the EECERA Board of Trustees, the current EECERJ Editorial Board, guest editors of Themed EECERA Journals, Convenors of 'active' EECERA Special Interest Groups (limited to no more than two per SIG), current EECERA members with 3 years consecutive membership and former EECERA Conference Chairs, current Country co-ordinators with 3 years service.