Who are the Group of Anaesthetists in Training (GAT)?

We represent trainee members of the AAGBI, which is currently over 3500 trainees and over 85% of trainee anaesthetists within Great Britain and Ireland.

If you become a member of the GAT Committee you will be in a position to impact nationally on how training evolves within anaesthesia over the next decade. It is very easy to criticise, much more difficult to suggest compromise and solutions. If you think you can represent your colleagues and peers, are innovative and resourceful, and can work well within a team of enthusiastic individuals, then we want you on the GAT Committee.

We invite you to stand for election to the Group of Anaesthetists in Training

What do we do?

The Committee has 13 elected members, with an executive comprising the Chair, Vice Chair and Honorary Secretary. We meet three times a year at the AAGBI headquarters in London and also at the GAT Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM).

The Chair and Honorary Secretary are members of AAGBI Council and voting members of the Board; the Vice-Chair is co-opted to Council. The GAT Committee members represent trainees on all AAGBI committees and working parties; they are also co-opted onto several external committees, including the Royal College of Anaesthetists Trainee Committee and the BMA Junior Doctors Committee. We provide anaesthetic trainee representation to important national initiatives such as the Shape of Training Review and the government’s review of the impact and implementation of the European Working Time Regulation. The GAT Committee has editorial control of the trainee section of the Association’s monthly newsletter *Anaesthesia News*, and organises seminars and the GAT ASM specifically for trainees.

The GAT Committee tends to attract senior trainees. We encourage core trainees and ACCS trainees to also stand for election to ensure that all grades of anaesthesia trainees are represented. We would also like representation on the Committee from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, so we encourage nominations from Ireland, Northern Ireland and Wales in particular, as they are currently unrepresented.

The responsibility we are given is a privilege. As well as being extremely interesting, this opportunity offers great scope for the development of personal skills in management, negotiation and committee working, authorship and presentation at a national level.

What to do next?

In 2015, there will be at least five seats available for election to the Committee. Those standing for election will be expected to serve a minimum term of two years, up to a maximum of four years. You need to be resident in the UK or Ireland for your term of office. Most meetings will take place at the AAGBI headquarters in London and are usually on Fridays. If elected, nominees agree to fulfil the duties and responsibilities required of them. The term of office on the Committee officially commences at the GAT ASM in Manchester from 17-19 June 2015. As an elected committee member you would expect to have AAGBI commitments on approximately 10 to 12 days over the course of a year in addition to the 3-day ASM. There is also a significant amount of discussion that takes place via email.

Further information and nomination forms are available from the AAGBI secretariat on 020 7631 1650 (option 3), gat@aagbi.org or can be downloaded from the AAGBI website (www.aagbi.org/gatcommittee). All nominees should be proposed and seconded by other trainee members of the AAGBI and submitted to: GAT Committee, 21 Portland Place, London, W1B 1PY; by email to gat@aagbi.org or faxed to 020 7631 4352.

The closing date is Friday 10 April at 17:00. We look forward to receiving your nomination form.

Sarah Gibb, Caroline Wilson & Annemarie Docherty
GAT Chair, Vice Chair & Honorary Secretary