

Personal Statements from Nominees

Mr Tim Brigstocke MBE, M.Phil, FIAgrM, FRAgS, FSB

**Nominated to the post of Chair of the College of Individual Members,
Society of Biology**

I'm very honoured to be nominated to Chair the College of Individual Members. I believe strongly in the Society of Biology. Indeed I was not only part of the small interim Council working to create the new body but was also part of the Institute of Biology roadshow, selling the concept of the new unified society to individual members. One of the constant questions asked at these meetings was how the two very different approaches between the IOB, with individual members, and the BSF, with constituent bodies, might work. The forming of separate Colleges to accommodate these two key membership elements is an interesting and novel approach that should work to mutual benefit.

By training, I'm an animal nutritionist and have been involved with the IOB since the mid 1990s - first as a member and then Chairman of the Agriculture, Land Use and Sustainability Committee. More recently I have been Vice President for Science Policy.

I am currently Policy Director for the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, Executive Director for Cattle Health Certification Standards (CHeCS) and Executive Chairman for the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. I'm also a member of other bodies including the board of RUMA and the Institute of Agricultural Management.

This is an exciting time for biology and I hope that I can make a significant contribution to the new Society as Chair of the College of Individual Members.

Professor John Coggins OBE, FRSE, FSB

**Nominated to the post of Chair of College of Member Organisations,
Society of Biology**

I am delighted to have the opportunity to be a candidate for Chair of the College of Member Organisations of the Society of Biology. Over the past 10 years I was much involved with the UK Life Sciences Committee and then the Biosciences Federation in the movement to establish the Society of Biology as a single voice for biological scientists in the UK. Now that the Society has been successfully launched it is vital that it maximises its impact and the principal engine to achieve this will be through engaging, supporting and promoting the Members Organisations. I am in the fortunate position that I will have the time to interact directly with the Member Organisations through meetings, email contact and blogs. I will also call, as necessary, general meetings of the College of Member Organisations to ensure that I am well briefed to present to Council the views and recommendations of the Member Organisations. I believe that my experience of

the life science sector, both academic and commercial, over some 40 years and the very wide range of contacts that I have will benefit the Society and it's Council.

Career Summary

I graduated from Oxford University with a degree in chemistry in 1966 and from Ottawa University, Canada, with a PhD in Biochemistry in 1970. After four postdoctoral years divided between the Biology Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Long Island, New York and the Biochemistry Department in Cambridge I was appointed a Lecturer in Biochemistry at Glasgow University in 1974. I was promoted to a personal chair in Biochemistry in 1986, elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1988 and appointed Professor of Molecular Enzymology in 1995. My research has been in the areas of protein chemistry and enzymology especially on the structure and mechanism of biosynthetic enzymes and the rational design and development of novel anti-microbial and anti-parasitic agents and I am the co-author of more than 150 research publications. During my research career I collaborated extensively with industry and was personally involved in two spin-out companies. I established the first Graduate School at Glasgow University, served a term as Head of the Division of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and then became Research Director of the Institute of Biomedical and Life Sciences (IBLS) which had been formed by merging together the eleven biological and pre-medical departments in Glasgow. Later I became the Director and Dean of IBLS and eventually Vice-Principal for the Life Sciences, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. I have a particular interest in the knowledge transfer agenda, in science education and as a Trustee of the Glasgow Science Centre in science outreach and engagement.

I have served on many Research Council, Learned Society and Government Committees including: SERC (Chairman Biochemistry & Biophysics Committee), NEDO (Member of Working Party on Biotechnology), DTI (Biotechnology Joint Advisory Board), AFRC Council, RAE Panel for Biochemistry (Chair 1996), Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (as Research Awards Convener and as the Life Sciences Vice President), Scottish Science Advisory Committee, Heads of University Biological Science (as Committee member and then as Chairman), Biochemical Society (as Chair of Policy Committee), Biosciences Federation (Treasurer). I have recently retired as a Vice-Principal at Glasgow University and since November 2009 I have been working part time (2 days per week) as Pro Vice-Principal with special responsibility for Outreach and Public Engagement. I am currently a member of BBSRC Council, the Research Information Network Advisory Board and the UK Research Data Services Steering Group.