



Institute
and Faculty
of Actuaries

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Research and Thought Leadership Committee (RTLTC) – Academic Member - Task and Person Specification

Background

The Research and Thought Leadership Committee (RTLTC) will oversee the research and thought leadership outputs of the IFoA, ensuring the overall body of work is useful to members, advances Actuarial Science and aids the advancement of the profession with external audiences.

The RTLTC remit includes the full lifecycle of research and thought leadership, from commissioning and delivery through dissemination, promotion, and evaluation.

The Research Committee will ensure that the IFoA's research and thought leadership contributes to the organisation's wider strategy.

Academic Task and Person Specification:

'Task' Specification

The role

In line with the RTLTC Terms of Reference (appendix), RTLTC committee members are expected to:

- identify and communicate potential gaps in research
- contribute to horizon scanning
- identify synergies across the extensive research programme (including work being undertaken by Practice Boards and Working Parties)
- encourage collaboration across the IFoA
- championing the IFoA's research and thought leadership activities
- maintain awareness of relevant research being conducted beyond the IFoA
- champion quality assurance of research
- encourage knowledge exchange and dissemination of research across the IFoA community
- support the approval process for research funding

Reporting

Committee members report to the Chair of RTLTC.

Tenure

Appointments are typically for a three-year period, with the possibility of renewal for a further three years.

Time commitment

RTLCL meets formally three times a year (two-hour meetings), usually in February, May, and October, with reading, preparation and the occasional sign-off by e-mail required in the interim.

Ad hoc meetings may also be convened for the committee, or a sub-group, to discuss a specific issue or review research proposals.

For the formal RTLCL meetings, Microsoft Teams meeting facilities enable us to widen this opportunity to members based in any location around the globe.

Academic Person Specification

The RTLCL member will ideally:

- be a Chartered member of the IFoA or have close association with the actuarial profession through working in the industries served by actuaries or related academic fields
- strong current experience within an academic environment
- have experience of producing and overseeing high quality academic research in a professional capacity
- a solid understanding of emerging themes and trends in actuarial science
- an appreciation of the interplay between academic research and actuarial practice, leading to research providing substantial contributions to actuarial work
- a strong record of publishing high quality research in peer-reviewed journals, both actuarial and other related fields
- have an ability to make connections across multiple practice areas and disciplines
- have a broad understanding of developments in the actuarial profession, industry and wider environment that could contribute to the future research agenda
- be willing to gain and maintain a knowledge of existing and past research undertaken by the IFoA
- have a collegiate approach and a desire to foster a sense of community amongst members of the RTLCL and beyond
- understand the requirements for quality assuring research
- an understanding in the scholarly publishing environment, such as Open Access publishing
- have a creative approach to knowledge exchange and dissemination of research.

In addition, it would be helpful if the RTLCL member also has:

- a growing network and profile in their community
- an ability to think globally about the key research issues for the IFoA
- experience of dealing with funded research projects
- experience of peer reviewing research paper

In return, the volunteer will:

- be provided with excellent professional support and assistance during your tenure on the board
- develop an effective network of contacts across the industry.