

Society of Antiquaries of London

Order 3, April 2016, Revised December 2022

The conduct of Elections and Admissions to the Society for Ordinary and Honorary Fellows

1. Ordinary Fellows

1.1 Candidates for Fellowship may be nominated by an existing Fellow and elected at a ballot open to the whole Fellowship. All existing Fellows are entitled to propose a candidate, with the support of at least four and up to eleven additional Fellows (making a minimum of five and a maximum of twelve). There is no limit to the number of candidates that a Fellow may nominate or support.

1.2 The Statutes require that any person admitted to the Fellowship of the Society must be distinguished in the fields of archaeology, architectural or art history, or other antiquarian subject matters across the academic, charitable, heritage and private sectors.

2. Nomination of Fellows

2.1 Individuals who wish to be nominated to the Fellowship may register their interest by completing such form(s) as Council may require from time to time and publish for that purpose on the Society's website and submitting the form(s) to the Society with a brief CV outlining how they meet the criteria for Fellowship. Completed forms shall be considered by a Fellow or Fellows on an expert panel appointed by Council for that purpose who will co-ordinate a Blue Paper nomination if, at the sole discretion of the said Fellow or Fellows, the candidate meets the eligibility criteria set out in the Statutes. After this stage, the Blue Paper will follow the same process of election as Sponsored nominations (2.2 below).

2.2 Alternatively, a Fellow (the 'Sponsor') may nominate a candidate either in writing or online; this procedure is known as 'taking out a Blue Paper'. The Sponsor must ensure that the candidate is willing to be nominated for election, is aware of the financial implications of Fellowship and can conform to the aims and obligations of the Society.

2.3 In writing: the Sponsor should contact the General Secretary by post or email, providing brief details of the reason for the candidate's nomination, and request a nomination paper ('Blue Paper'). If the General Secretary validates the reasons given for the nomination, the Sponsor will be sent a Blue Paper: the date that this is sent will be the date of registration. The Sponsor must complete the Blue Paper and ask other Fellows who have personal knowledge of the candidate and their work, publications or achievements to sign in support. To avoid the loss of Blue Papers in the post, Sponsors are encouraged not to send the original Blue Paper to fellow signatories. Full instructions on how to seek supporting signatures are sent out to the Sponsor with the Blue Paper.

2.4 Online: The Sponsor should go to the Society's website (www.sal.org.uk) or the Fellows' Platform and log in to the balloting system to 'Take out a new Blue Paper', fill in the form and 'Submit for Registration'. If the General Secretary validates and registers the Blue Paper, the Sponsor will receive a confirmatory email asking him/her to collect electronic written confirmation of support from other Fellows who have personal knowledge of the candidate and of their work, publications or achievements. The date of registration will be the date at which the submitted Blue Paper is validated by the General Secretary.

2.5 There can sometimes be a considerable gap in time between taking out a Blue Paper and gathering all the signatures needed for it to be submitted. If a Blue Paper has not been completed and submitted within two years from the date of registration, it will be deemed to be null and void.

3. Describing a candidate for Fellowship

3.1 The statement about a candidate's suitability for the Fellowship, whether in hard copy or online, must include information about their current position, their career history and the major publications or other achievements and distinctions that qualify them to be considered for admission to the Fellowship.

4. The handling of submitted Blue Papers

4.1 Hard-copy Blue Papers are returned by the sponsor to the General Secretary. Online Blue Papers are submitted electronically by the Sponsor. All completed Blue Papers are dealt with strictly in the order in which they are received fully completed and are included in the earliest available ballot.

4.2 Nominations of candidates for the Fellowship whose Blue Papers have been received by the General Secretary will be published on the Fellows' Platform, and the candidate allocated to a future ballot. The Blue Papers will also be available for inspection at Burlington House.

5. Voting on new Fellows

5.1 All Fellows will be notified of published nominations and the closing date and time of the ballot, which will be at least four weeks after the nomination is published.

5.2 Fellows can vote online, or by downloading and returning the ballot paper by post or in person at any stage between the announcement of the ballot and the ballot closing time and date. It is a requirement of the ballot that the voter has read the Blue Paper either in hard copy or online. Those who have signed the Blue Paper are counted as having already cast their vote for the candidate, and cannot vote again for that candidate in the ballot.

5.3 After balloting closes, the votes cast in person by Fellows are added to the postal and online votes and those supporters who have signed the Blue Paper, and the result is announced on the Fellows' Platform. In order for a new Fellow to be elected, there must be a majority of two-thirds of the Fellows voting in favour. The result may also be declared at the next available Ordinary Meeting by the presiding Officer (usually the President).

6. Honorary Fellows

6.1 Anyone 'of outstanding reputation or learning in the area of interests of the Society' may be proposed for election as an Honorary Fellow in a written submission signed by at least five Fellows. The proposal has to be approved by the President and Council before going to ballot according to the procedure set out in Sections 3-5 above. The maximum of Honorary Fellows is one hundred, and no more than three Honorary Fellows may be elected in any single year.

6.2 In order to ensure that the Society proposes the three most appropriate candidates in any given year, Council will approve nominations for Honorary Fellowship at the last Council meeting of the calendar year.

Resolved by the Society of Antiquaries Council

December 2022

Signed

President

NB. Additional note to 5. Voting on New Fellows

Following a consultation with Fellows, Council resolved at a meeting on 27 October 2022 that there would be a period of a minimum of four weeks between Blue Papers being published online and voting opening: this allows Fellows to discuss candidates before the ballot opens.