

Open Call for new ACME members – 2012

About ACME – The Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education (ACME) provides advice to the Government and its agencies, and other policy makers on mathematics education issues in English schools and colleges between the ages of 5 to 19. The Committee is comprised of eight members and a Chair (Professor Stephen Sparks FRS) and works both proactively and reactively – producing policy reports and responding to policy initiatives in key areas. ACME is currently funded by the Department for Education, the Royal Society, Gatsby, the WellcomeTrust and a range of other organisations across the STEM landscape.

ACME is now seeking 3 new members – Candidates for the positions are expected to have current or recent experience of either mathematics education research, teacher education and development, teaching within schools and/or colleges, Higher Education or working with mathematics education practitioners. They will also have some knowledge of the education policy landscape, and/or be willing to develop associated skills through membership of the Committee. We welcome applications from across the full range of interests, but we would principally value candidates to complement the current expertise of the committee (see [our website](#) for more information on current committee members. Note that the departing members in 2012 will be Roger Porkess, Jack Abramsky and Anne Watson).

As a member of the Committee you will have the opportunity to develop a broad understanding of mathematics education issues. Candidates will be required to work independently and within teams on projects that will inform Government policy and influence the work of its stakeholders. Such work will help you to broaden your expertise and understanding of how education policy is developed as well as allowing you to contribute your own experience.

Since there is a continuous cycle of membership on the Committee, experienced colleagues and the Secretariat work to support one another as new members begin their work with ACME.

Starting Time and Commitment – Recognising the need to accommodate any existing commitments, we can be flexible about start dates. However, it is expected that applicants would be available to start either on September 2012 or January 2013 – applicants should indicate their preferred start date.

New members will normally be expected to give 10% of their time to ACME work, and their employers (or members directly if they have no employers) will be reimbursed for the relevant proportion of their salary and any on costs via the Royal Society, which hosts ACME. Membership is usually for a three-year period. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred on ACME business (including for its formal meetings, usually held monthly in London) are reimbursed directly to members. Members will be selected considering the strategic priorities and overall balance of the Committee, and on the basis of all or some of the following criteria:

- An ability to think strategically;
- An understanding of policy analysis and of government;
- Confidence to form their own views and to engage with and influence senior policy makers;

- Willingness to work on agreed ACME activities and ability to commit the necessary time to such work;
- Broad expertise and recognised status;
- Involvement in established networks (such as membership of professional bodies);
- Experience in writing, leading projects, and communicating to diverse audiences;
- Open-mindedness and the ability to work as part of a co-operative team; and
- Deep personal subject knowledge of mathematics.

The members of ACME will serve as expert individuals and not as representatives of any organisation or interest group. The members follow ACME's working methods as set out [here](#). The Secretariat will provide induction support to new members upon joining the Committee.

Applications- Applicants should provide:

- A 2-page CV.
- An explanation in no more than 500 words of what they feel they will bring to ACME and how they will manage to give the time required for ACME work (around 25 days per year including 12 committee meetings, usually in London).
- A signed reference from their department head, principal, manager or head teacher supporting their application to join ACME and confirming that they will be allowed to commit at least 10% of their time or, if they have no employer, a confirmation that they will be able to carry out 2 days of Committee work per month.

Applications must be received by Friday 18 May at the very latest. Please send electronic copies of application papers (including an electronic scan of the signed reference) to acme@royalsociety.org with the subject header 'Open Call 2012'. Shortlisted candidates may be asked to attend interviews to be held on **7 June 2012**.

For further information about ACME and its work please see www.acme-uk.org
Should you wish to discuss the process or the work of ACME in more detail, or speak with a member of the Committee, please contact Dr Rosalind Mist, ACME Head of Secretariat at rosalind.mist@royalsociety.org (020 7451 2205).