

MARINE FACILITIES ADVISORY BOARD (MFAB) MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES

Closing date:	30 November 2022
Commitment:	Two meetings per year, plus reading time. On occasion, members may also be asked to join MFAB Working Groups.
Number of vacancies:	Five
Length of membership:	Three years with the option to extend.
Start date:	April 2023

The role of MFAB

The role of the Marine Facilities Advisory Board (MFAB) is to acquire views from the UK's marine science community, to provide advice to the Chief Executive of the National Oceanography Centre (NOC), on current capability and future development of the Natural Environment Research Council's (NERC) National Marine Equipment Pool (NMEP).

How MFAB is organised

The NMEP is co-ordinated through and lead by the NOC, on behalf of NERC. MFAB sits within a governance framework which reviews the performance of NOC (below) and is a subcommittee of the NOC Association of Marine Science National Capability Beneficiaries (NOCA). The Chair of MFAB sits on NERC's Cruise Programme Executive Board (CPEB), to provide assurance to the CPEB Chair, NERC's Director of Research and Skills, that the strategic investments made by the NOC are prioritised, to benefit the UK's marine science community.

Membership

- Chair - independent of the NOC
- External equipment specialist
- International barter partner
- NERC Head of Marine Science
- NOC Chief Operating Officer
- NOC Associate Director, National Marine Facilities
- Head of British Oceanographic Data Centre
- Up to ten members from the UK marine scientific user community¹

¹ The marine science community is defined as that established by the NOC Association: a network of identified, institutional representatives of Universities and research centres. [Membership of the NOC Association, at March 2022](#).

Vacancies

We are looking to recruit five new members from the UK marine scientific user community who are keen to provide vital insight into the potential future needs of the National Marine Equipment Pool (NMEP).

Members will:

- Sit on the board as individuals, rather than representing a particular organisation.
- Seek views from the user community and contribute to discussion on the condition of equipment in the NMEP and recommendations for retirements.
- Provide views on potential new investment by reviewing the annual Capital Equipment requests from the community.
- Join MFAB working groups on occasion.
- Be a conduit for their respective communities.

Meetings

- MFAB conducts two meetings per year (either one half day or over two half days) and these will be conducted either on Microsoft Teams or in person. Some pre-meeting reading will be required. Occasionally, members may also be asked to support MFAB Working Groups.
- NOC will pay all reasonable T & S expenses of members of the Board in attending meetings and reimbursement will be in accordance with NOC policy.

Person specification

- Experience of using equipment within the National Marine Equipment Pool.
- Willingness and the ability to represent the views of the marine science community to constructively challenge decision makers, and facilitate communication between the research community, NOC and NERC.
- Applicants with experience in marine mammal research, deep sea biology, marine engineering, geophysics or shelf-sea processes are particularly welcome.

Applicants:

- must be able to devote sufficient time to membership and have the support of their host organisation in taking up this role.
- are asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest.

How to apply

Please send a C.V. and covering letter, of not more than one side of A4, explaining why you would like to apply, to the MFAB Secretary, Jackie Pearson at the National Oceanography Centre: jpea@noc.ac.uk

Applicants are asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest - a copy of the NOC policy is available on request: jfpea@noc.ac.uk

Diversity, equality and inclusion

At NOC we value individual differences and the rich diversity that this brings. We want to ensure that no-one is at a disadvantage or feels excluded because of who they are, what they believe in or the experiences that they bring.

Members will be selected based on their suitability against the person specification above. Where candidates are of equal merit, MFAB will use its discretion to ensure that there is a balanced composition of members within MFAB. As such, the recruitment process will consider the balance of members with respect to:

- equality, diversity and inclusion
- sector experience
- expertise.

MFAB Terms of Reference