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Pool of Experts – 2010-2014
Core Committee B – 2014-2017

My role as an introducing member

Being an introducing member is, in my view, like being a magistrate. You have all this evidence before you and my role is to read the referees' comments and the response from the applicants in the context of the case for support. This allows me to decide whether the referees have made a fair judgement on the proposal or not.

How I prepare

I may have ten proposals to introduce. I start well in advance, reading everything through as carefully as I can. I give myself some more time before the meeting just to summarise all my thoughts so I can make a good and concise job of introducing the proposal.

Why I do it

I enjoy it, it's very inspiring. I think, "well that's the level of excellence I need to be achieving when I submit my next grant proposal".

How I manage my time

I diarise it – I put aside periods when I can read maybe one or two proposals a day, and do this over several days. As time has gone on, I've realised how important it is to put time aside to do a thorough job.

What I get out of it

You learn what questions people are asking in the field, the very latest thinking because, of course, you are seeing their new ideas.

I also share my experience with university colleagues to help them write better Research Council proposals.



MORE INFORMATION

If this has inspired you to join the Pool of Experts, the call is open annually through May and June.

Go to www.bbsrc.ac.uk/appointments

or contact research.committees@bbsrc.ac.uk