



The COGE Board election process

This procedure has been carefully planned and designed to be transparent and adhere to the COGE ToR and the IUGS-established guidelines, ensuring a democratic, fair, and inclusive election process for COGE Board members. According to COGE ToR, the limit on tenure after which an officer needs to stand for re-election is four years. The key steps are as follows:

- 1.1. **Formation of Elections Subcommittee:** The COGE Board appoints an Elections Subcommittee composed of non-board members a year prior to the culmination of the Board's quadrennial term. An exception arises in unexpected Board vacancies, prompting the incumbent Board to form an interim Elections Subcommittee for vacancy fulfilment. This temporary Subcommittee comprises external commissioners and adheres to the same election protocols as the standard procedure.
- 1.2. **Opening of the position (s):** The Elections Subcommittee opens the call for vacant positions on the COGE Board. Vacancies are advertised with position descriptions and application requirements. It is emphasized in the call that geographic diversity and inclusivity should be prioritized.
- 1.3. **Candidates Application:** Applicants for any board position must be COGE regular members. However, if no regular members apply for a position or only one applies, the Elections Subcommittee may consider an exemption accepting the application of associated members, subject to agreement by the majority of voting members. Current board members can be eligible for re-election only once.
- 1.4. **Submission of Documents:** Applicants for any board position must submit the following documents:
 - Curriculum Vitae (CV): A comprehensive CV that highlights the applicant's academic qualifications, professional experience, research contributions, and any relevant leadership roles within the geoscience education community.
 - Statement of Plans for the COGE Board: A statement of up to 500 words (1.5 spaced) outlining the applicant's vision and plans for the desired position on the COGE Board. This should include specific ideas for furthering COGE's initiatives and promoting geoscience education globally, building on their past involvement within the commission.
 - Statement of Experience and Contributions to COGE: A statement of up to 500 words (1.5 spaced) detailing the applicant's significant contributions and involvement in COGE as a regular member. It should highlight their active engagement in COGE activities, such as participation in meetings, projects, or subcommittees, to demonstrate their commitment to the commission's objectives.
- 1.5. **Candidate Proposal Presentation:** A link to the candidates' application documents will be e-mailed to COGE voting members for review. The candidates will present their backgrounds, qualifications, and COGE development plans during a quarterly meeting. Members unable to attend the meeting will be provided with a link to the candidates' presentation recording.



- 1.6. **Circulation of Nominated Candidates:** The Elections Subcommittee presents proposed candidates to all voting commissioners (COGE Regular members) for a one-week voting period.
- 1.7. **Voting Process:** The Elections Subcommittee distributes a Survey Form (Google Form) to all regular (voting) members via email, providing clear instructions and a deadline for voting. The voting members evaluate the candidates based on their qualifications and willingness to serve on the Commission.
- 1.8. **Announcement of Elected Board Members:** The Elections Subcommittee officially declares the newly elected Board members, who assume their responsibilities after approval by the IUGS Executive Committee and ratification by the IUGS-IGC Council.