

Journal of Agricultural Economics Advisory Board

Background

The governance of the JAE is written into the contract between the AES and Wiley. Overall monitoring and control of the JAE are the responsibility of the Executive Committee in determining the overall strategic aims and objectives, aims, scope and content, and the selection and supervision of the editors and editorial team. In practice many of these responsibilities are delegated to the Editor in Chief, supported by (currently) 4 Associate Editors and 6 External Editors. The Editor in Chief reports to the AES Executive Committee at its mid-term meeting in the autumn and at the annual AES conference.

In order to meet the requirements of the AES-Wiley Publishing Agreement and exploit the opportunities that are expected to arise in the next decade in response to the evolving academic publishing business model, publishing environment, and developments in social media, the AES Executive has decided to establish an Advisory Board to support the editorial team, and to provide a bridge between the Executive, editorial team, and publisher. Tim Lloyd and Steve Ramsden conducted an *interim publications governance review* in 2019, which examined the existing governance arrangements in both addressing contractual requirements as well as recommending additional measures outside the scope of the publishing agreement that would support the editors. A subcommittee of the Executive, the *Governance Group*, chaired by Steve, discussed the terms of reference, membership of the Governance Group, associated issues and next steps in May 2021. (For reference, see Minutes of Mid-Term Executive meetings in 2019 and 2020, and Executive 1 at the Annual Conference in 2021).

Based on the interim review and discussions in the Governance Group, as well as consideration of the functions and operation of the EAAE-AES *EuroChoices* Advisory Board, the draft Terms of Reference of the JAE Advisory Board are set out below.

Draft Terms of Reference of the JAE Advisory Board

1. Functions and Responsibilities

The Advisory Board is charged with actively supporting and assisting the editorial team and providing a bridge between the Executive, editorial team, and publisher through:

- Promoting the interests of the JAE in relevant settings and situations
- Working to uphold the scientific rigour and relevance of content
- Working to ensure the financial sustainability of the journal
- Discussing and suggesting future directions concerning the style, content, communication, dissemination formats and marketing of the journal, and the composition of the editorial team

- Assisting the Editor in Chief in proposing and appointing Associate and External editors, and shaping policy on the disbursement of any honorariums to the editorial team
- Assisting the AES Executive Committee when a vacancy arises for the position of the Chief Editor by drawing up a short list of candidates, ranking candidates in order of preference, and facilitating the shadowing and timely handover to a new Chief Editor, as well as facilitating the appointment of a temporary Chief Editor should the Chief Editor be temporarily indisposed
- Responding to any requests for advice and assistance from the Executive, editorial team, and publisher as appropriate

2. Membership

The Executive Committee of the AES is responsible for appointing members of the Advisory Board:

- The Advisory Board shall comprise the Chief Editor, at least 3 but no more than 6 ordinary members, and a representative of the publisher
- Any member of the AES is eligible for service on the Advisory Board
- Membership is for a three-year term but can be extended for further periods of three years
- Ordinary members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the AES.
- The Advisory Board can co-opt members from external organisations to serve for a three-year term. Such members are eligible to serve further three-year terms. Co-opted members must be approved by the AES Executive.
- Membership will be unremunerated but reasonable travel and subsistence costs associated with undertaking Advisory Board duties will be met.

3. Meetings

The Advisory Board will hold at least one meeting in any 12-month period:

- A record of discussions at meetings will be kept and minutes of the meetings circulated for approval to the Advisory Board
- A report of the activities of the Advisory Board will be circulated to the Executive Committee

Wilfrid Legg, 8 June 2021