



Policy on selection of an Early Career Researcher and Mid-Career Researcher (EMCR) representatives to the Young Investigator Committee

The Victorian Infection and Immunity Network (VIIN) will have a Young Investigator Committee made up of EMCR representatives from VIIN's Contributing Organisations.

The proposed responsibilities of the EMCR representatives on the Young Investigator Committee would be to:

- Commit to a term of 2 years on this committee (subject to professional and personal circumstances), with the option of a 1-year extension.
- Attend Young Investigator Committee and Sub-Committee meetings (approximately 4 per year) (a mix of face-to-face and virtual mode).
- Participate in abstract selection and judging of awards for for the annual Young Investigator Symposium and contribute to practical organisation of this event (including speaker management, sponsor recruitment and other tasks).
- Contribute to a sub-committee responsible for the organisation of other workshops or networking activities throughout the year.
- After 12 months of service, a Young Investigator Committee member may be eligible for self-/nomination as the EMCR Representative to the VIIN Executive Committee (see VIIN Policy on the Selection of EMCR Representative to the VIIN Committee).

The proposed selection process for the EMCR representation would be as follows:

- Upcoming vacancies on the committee will be identified by the Program Manager after the Q3 VIIN Executive Meeting annually. We aim to have at least one representative per Contributing Organisation on the committee. Upcoming vacancies are defined as members who have served a term of 2 years on the committee.
- Self-nominations for upcoming vacancies will be invited by mail-out to the VIIN mailing list after the Q3 VIIN Executive Meeting annually.
- Current VIIN Young Investigator Committee members who have completed a term of 2 years may be invited to re-apply by email from the VIIN Program Manager. Their applications will be considered alongside the applications received in the open call.
- EMCRs, typically within 10 years of graduation of their PhDs (career disruptions considered) are eligible to self-nominate.
- Applicants will be required to submit a brief statement about why they would like to join the Young Investigator Committee, including:
 - A description of their field of research, level of seniority, key publications (up to 5) and grants awarded (total up to 200 words)
 - Current or past leadership roles in the infection and immunity field (up to 100 words)
 - Their view of VIIN and how they can contribute to advancing the mission of the Network (up to 200 words).

- Applications will need to be received 4-6 weeks prior to the Q4 VIIN Executive Meeting annually at a date to be advertised in the mail-outs noted above.
- VIIN Co-Convenors, or as delegated, a sub-committee of the VIIN Executive Committee, will consider the applications received and select at least one and up to a maximum of three representatives per VIIN Contributing Organisation, giving consideration to diversity and equity (considering gender, cultural background, geography, institution, and discipline, on balance and on average over several terms of membership renewal).
- The proposed Young Investigator Committee members will be tabled at the Q4 VIIN Executive Committee meeting for discussion and ratification.
- All applicants will be notified of the outcome before each end-of-year. Successful applicants will be asked to attend a meeting in Q1 of the following year. Successful applicants will be asked to nominate or self-nominate to be EMCR Representative to the VIIN Executive Committee (see VIIN Policy on the Selection of EMCR Representative to the VIIN Committee).