

Strictly embargoed 00:01 Monday 24 October

Dr Andrew Garrett confirmed as President Elect of the Royal Statistical Society

Dr Andrew Garrett has been confirmed as the next Royal Statistical Society (RSS) President when Professor Sylvia Richardson's term of office comes to a close at the end of this year.

Dr Garrett is Executive Vice President of Scientific Operations at the clinical research organisation ICON plc, where he is responsible for the strategic direction and operational delivery of a range of clinical trial services. Having worked extensively in the area of rare diseases, he has held various biostatistics managerial positions in the pharmaceutical industry, including as Vice President of Biostatistics, Medical Writing and Regulatory Affairs at Quintiles (now IQVIA).

Andy is a member of the UK Statistic Authority's Research Accreditation Panel, which oversees the approval of research projects in accordance with the Digital Economy Act, and in 2016 he was commissioned by the National Statistician to undertake an independent review of ONS methodology.

Andy was recommended from a list of nominees put forward by the learned society's fellows to its President Nominating Committee, with RSS fellows then given an opportunity to nominate an alternative candidate. Former RSS presidents include Harold Wilson, Stella Cunliffe and David Spiegelhalter.

Dr Andrew Garrett, commenting on the announcement, said: "I am honoured to have been chosen as the next President of the Royal Statistical Society and have the opportunity to build upon the excellent work done by Sylvia Richardson and her predecessors.

"From climate change to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the need for reliable and robust data has never been more important to policy makers and the public alike, and the RSS continues to have an important role to play as an authoritative and trusted voice."

Professor Sylvia Richardson, President of the Royal Statistical Society, commented: "I'm delighted that Andy is to be our next President. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from biostatistics and the pharmaceutical industry, and I know he will be a driving force in ensuring that the disciplines of statistics and data science continue to thrive."

Notes to editors

- The Royal Statistical Society (RSS), founded in 1834, is one of the world's most distinguished and renowned statistical societies. It is a learned society for statistics, a professional body for statisticians and data scientists and a charity which promotes statistics, data and evidence for the public good. Today the RSS has over 11,000 members around the world. www.rss.org.uk @RoyalStatSoc
- The full list of former RSS presidents can be found here: <https://rss.org.uk/about/people/past-presidents/>
- A photo of Dr Andrew Garrett is available on request.