



28th May 2024

Motivation letter: ESID Junior Country Representative for the UK

Dear Dr Marzollo and ESID Members,

I am a motivated enthusiastic ESID junior, currently training in Clinical and Laboratory Immunology & Allergy in London, and keen to represent UK ESID juniors between 2024-2024. I have a commitment to education and believe my experience to date will be an asset to this role.

I have co-led a regional immunology educational programme for trainees based in the Southeast of the UK over the 2021/2022 academic year. We performed a gap analysis of educational needs for our trainees, mapped teaching topics to our new training curriculum, and were able to work together to engage a diverse selection of speakers with positive feedback.

Since 2022 I have been supporting clinical guideline development for the diagnosis of CVID as a junior representative for the ESID clinical working party, supervised by Professors Klaus Warnatz and Siobhan Burns. This has involved leading a systematic literature review alongside another ESID junior, followed by organising and chairing regular meetings with a team of worldwide experts, allowing me to better understand processes within the ESID CWP and develop rapport with international ESID members.

I am additionally the junior representative on our UK immunology conference organising committee (BSI-CIPN, formally UKPIN). Here I can represent trainee views regarding conference themes that would best address our educational needs, alongside advocating for diversity in our invited speakers. At the last conference, I was able to re-initiate a networking event for trainee clinicians and lab scientists that had been suspended during the pandemic to bring together trainees from different regions, and earned it a permanent fixture for this year's programme.

I have been impressed by the educational content provided by ESID year-round – attending last year's winter school in Newcastle alongside regular journal clubs and grand rounds. These meetings offer excellent educational value alongside the opportunity for fostering international relations. I would be keen to contribute to the ongoing development of these initiatives through this post. I would also be interested in exploring mentor/mentee opportunities between ESID members as a means to cultivate professional development, allow juniors to consider career progression early, and broaden our networks. Finally, I would relish the chance to put forward and deliver other ESID junior members' ideas to further develop our learning opportunities.

For the past year, I have been working on a PhD whilst continuing ad hoc clinical work. The time out of clinical training has provided me more flexibility with my time to contribute to leadership roles. In the context of this job's responsibility, I would dedicate my time accordingly to focus on delivering the work required.

Yours sincerely,

Katie

Dr Katie Townsend BM BCh MRCP

katie.townsend5@nhs.net

UCL DIVISION OF INFECTION & IMMUNITY
UCL Pears Building, University College London
Rowland Hill Street, London NW3 2QG