

Dr Sally Little (ECSA councillor 2010-present; Current Conference Coordinator since 2013; previously Student Representative (2010-2013))

In my time as an ECSA councillor, the society has faced some big challenges (e.g. stagnating membership numbers and high running costs), which in part is a temporal reflection of the changing market for scientific associations. As Conference Coordinator I have made a number of successful changes to increase ECSA membership numbers and conference profits to ensure survival of this society. Key changes include uniquely rebranding ECSA numbered meetings, establishing Special (and interdisciplinary) delegate-chaired Sessions, trialling 'free' membership with meeting registration, increasing diversity and gender balance across ECSA conferences/scientific committees and diversifying ECSA conference grants (e.g. to cover carers costs). These changes have resulted in new members, increased delegates and profits from our meetings and importantly strengthened the ECSA-Elsevier relationship. For example, in the last five years (In addition to overseeing the ECSA meetings and workshops portfolio), I have organised two world-class international conferences in London and Bremen (ECSA 55 and ECSA 56 which attracted ~900 delegates and £12,376 profit for ECSA) and I am currently organising ECSA 57 in Perth, which has attracted >750 abstracts. As President-Elect I will continue to work to ensure that ECSA continues its mission, whilst growing and evolving into a modern society that remains competitive, and increasingly diverse in a changing market. I will achieve this by working to make ECSA the 'go-to' association for estuarine and coastal specialists globally. As President-Elect I will strive to increase ECSA's visibility to potential members and partners, diversify funding streams (i.e. more awards/bigger pot as profits grow) and establishing discipline and country specific ECSA sub-groups to facilitate collaborations and extend ECSA's reach into new and currently under-represented areas (e.g. palaeo-estuaries/coasts, coastal geoarchaeology, coastal geomorphology, sea-level and transitional zone to open marine systems).