

ECSA President-elect ballot: Supporting Statement

Professor John Humphreys BSc, MSc, MEd, PhD, FRSB, FMBA.

I was for ten years Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) at the University of Greenwich, London, latterly as PVC Research. My own research focus is on estuarine and coastal benthic ecology specialising in two commercially important non-native bivalve species: the Manila clam and the Pacific Oyster. I have worked abroad in many countries. My projects in sub-Saharan Africa attracted funding in excess of £9 million and resulted in the Queens Award for Higher Education in 2008. I am a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and of the Marine Biological Association.

As PVC at Greenwich I was one of the small top management team responsible for the general management of the University. I also served as chief executive of the University's for-profit subsidiary: Greenwich University Enterprises. During this time the University broke into the top quartile of universities for contract research income from industry, and the top ten in terms of both research efficiency and rate of growth in industry contracts. Additionally I have served on the Board of a number of companies including both commercial and non-profit organisations in the UK and abroad.

On leaving the University of Greenwich I was appointed Emeritus professor, but since then have moved to the English south coast. I am currently Chairman of the Southern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority (fishery research, legislation & management), and Vice Chairman of the (national) Association of Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authorities. I am a visiting professor at the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Portsmouth, and elsewhere.

Currently I am working on two related outputs for Elsevier on the subject of Marine Protected Areas. Firstly as guest editor of a special themed issue of *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science* and secondly as editor of a more comprehensive book entitled *Marine Protected Areas: Evidence, Policy and Management*. These outputs result from a conference on the subject which I organised under the auspices of, and with help from, ECSA. My previous experience with Elsevier includes an earlier edited book in their Proceedings in Marine Science series, and journal papers ranging from pure science to fisheries economics and marine policy.

I am interested in the position of President-elect as I feel I have both the time and experience to make a significant contribution to the development of the Association. I feel my practical knowledge of managing and developing academic organisations, along with my international experience, align well with the needs of the Association. I feel I can bring a fresh perspective and am confident in my ability to identify essential priorities and help further develop and achieve strategy goals.

I would enjoy helping ECSA further develop its academic goals while also strengthening its financial position. ECSA is well placed to build on a good base by increasing membership and reach. For example initiatives to increase the number of sponsors and institutional members in the UK and worldwide could be beneficial, not least in the developing world where the Association can bring significant added value. Such goals could perhaps be amplified through an ECSA "branch" scheme. In addition I feel further publishing opportunities exist in relation for example to book series.