

AO Spine International Board– AO Spine Education Commission Chairperson Job Description 2025

AO Spine searches: AO Spine is recognized as the global leader in spine education. In the future, many challenges need to be overcome, such as increased competition, a saturation of the spine-specific education market in certain regions, and the speed with which technology and education consumption patterns develop and change. These challenges also present opportunities. To stay at the forefront, we need not only to continue doing what we already do well, but also strengthen our position as the leading provider of high-quality, innovative education.

AO Spine searches for a highly motivated and active spine surgeon who is experienced in and passionate about education and who has a clear vision and excellent management skills. The candidate needs to be diplomatic and engaging and have the drive and the time to deal with the challenges and seize the opportunities of the future of spine education.

Position: AO Spine International Board Member – Education Commission Chairperson

Function: Chairperson AO Spine Education Commission (AOSEC)

Territory: Global

Reporting to: Chairperson AO Spine International Board (AOSIB)

Term: 1 year as a Chairperson Elect (not on AOSIB) + 3 years as a Chair (single term) + 1 years as Past Chairperson (not on AOSIB)

As Chair-Elect: 1st July 2025 – 30th June 2026

As Chair: 1st July 2026 – 30th June 2029

As Past Chair: 1st July 2029 – 30th June 2030

Eligibility Current or past members of any AO Spine Commission, Member Representative after end of term*, and Past AOSIB members for one additional election two years after the end of their term*.
* The new position starts with the elect-term.

- Responsibilities**
- Represent AO Spine education on the AOSIB, the AO Education Platform, as well as on the AO Davos Course Steering Committee
 - Be the ambassador of AO Spine education and lifelong learning within and outside AO Spine
 - Lead the AO SEC without bias—adhering to the by-laws, guidelines, and policies and promoting transparency, egalitarianism, and accountability
 - Plan and conduct AOSEC meetings in an efficient and effective manner
 - Drive the planning and execution of global strategic educational priorities and initiatives
 - Delegate tasks and responsibilities to the most appropriate AOSEC members and taskforces
 - Monitor AO SEC budgets (with Global Education Manager)
 - Develop and implement quality curricula and educational concepts and programs consistent with learners' needs which help AO Spine maximize engagement and participation
 - Ensure quality and integrity of AO Spine's educational events

- Drive innovation, specifically related to new consumption patterns (e.g., online, on-demand)
- Implement and refine state-of-the-art educational media and tools
- Reinforce the importance and implementation of evaluation and assessment
- Ensure faculty development programs continue to provide AO Spine educational events with the best possible faculty pool
- Strengthen the cooperation with Regions and other Commissions and AO areas to leverage resources, ideas, experience, and expertise and to optimize performance
- Act as Ex Officio Trustee of the AO Foundation

Requirements

- Active AO Spine Member
- Active spine surgeon
- University or academic institution affiliation (current or past)
- Passionate about surgeon education
- Formal educational qualifications would be desirable
- Experience on online education would be desirable
- Familiarity with functioning in online education tools (learning management systems) and excellent command of videoconferencing tools
- Highly motivated to build AO Spine as an academic community
- Demonstration (CV) of effective leadership of department, committee, or large-scale project
- Recognized as an excellent educator with participation in officially recognized AO Spine faculty trainings
- Experience as Chairperson/Educational Advisor in multiple AO Spine educational events
- High level communication skills, excellent listener and facilitator, diplomatic, constructive
- Ability and keenness to lead by engaging
- Willing and prepared to spend significant time on this key role (including travel) – see meetings attendance
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Ability to work with multicultural teams

Meetings attendance requirements

- Davos Planning Meeting (Jan/Feb)
- Education Platform Meeting (March/Apr)
- GSC with AOSEC Meeting (May)
- Trustees Meeting (June)
- AOSEC Fall Retreat (Sept/Oct)
- AOSIB in person (Oct/Nov)
- AOSIB Online Meetings
- Meetings with Education Team (bi-weekly)
- Impromptu meetings for curriculum development, In-Hospital, etc.
- Davos Courses in December (annually)
- TC Meetings at GSC (May) and annually in Nov/Dec (frequently during Davos Courses)
- Anticipated average of 8-10 working hours per week

Remuneration

- As per AO Foundation Guidelines