



Terms of Reference: EPSRC Representative to the CECAM Council

The EPSRC CECAM academic council member provides UK representation to CECAM (Centre Européen de Calcul Atomique et Moléculaire) council.

Eligibility

- This representative must be an active member of the computational physical sciences community, have strong awareness of CECAM activities and the UK nodes at Cambridge and Daresbury, and be motivated to get the best research, collaboration and training outcomes for UK researchers and CECAM.

Expectations of the EPSRC CECAM Council member

The CECAM academic representative to the council is expected to bring a broad strategic view to the table, and to act as a “generous generalist”, advising across the breadth of the computational chemistry research area. They are not required to act as representative of their own organisation, research or sector.

The EPSRC CECAM Council member is expected to

- be an engaged representative for EPSRC and the UK academic community to facilitate the physical sciences community’s participation in CECAM opportunities and maximise membership benefits.
- be familiar with current CECAM council conventions and be able to enable full UK participation CECAM opportunities.
- strive to create strong networks within the community and engage individuals of all career stages in CECAM’s activities.
- attend council meetings and vote on issues concerning the CECAM community and champion the UK computational physical sciences communities,

constructively challenging or validating CECAM's perspectives, drawing on the available evidence and their own experiences.

- provide short reports of council meetings to EPSRC and keep in regular contact with the EPSRC administrative representative, helping to facilitate two-way communication between EPSRC and the research community and bringing forward issues and opportunities to EPSRC's attention.
- be required to act within the seven principles of public life, in particular to provide independent, informed advice avoiding actual or perceived conflicts of interest, and to take a collegiate approach to policy and strategy development within the CECAM council. They are required to declare any personal, private or commercial interests that might conflict with the interests of EPSRC or CECAM, and must withdraw from any discussion of topics in which they have such an interest.

EPSRC's Portfolio Manager acting as administrative representative for CECAM will:

- keep the representative up to date with any strategy or policy decisions that influence their work with CECAM.
- enable clear lines of communication between the representative and EPSRC and meet them periodically to talk about CECAM opportunities and challenges.
- Constructively challenge or validate the representative's or CECAM's perspectives, drawing on available evidence where necessary.

Nominations and Recruitment

Selection for this role is based on the fulfilment of criteria required for the vacancy, a panel of Physical Sciences SAT members, convened by EPSRC staff, will identify the successful candidate from their written application.

Commitment

The appointment is for five years, with a recruitment round advertised every four years to enable a short handover period.

The CECAM council representative is expected to attend all council meetings either virtually or in person and to inform EPSRC of extenuating circumstances leading to non-attendance as soon as they are able.

If it is found that the representative is not fulfilling the Terms of Reference for the position, then EPSRC reserve the right to terminate their appointment in writing with one month's notice. If a representative would like to terminate their appointment early, then they will need to provide 6 months' notice in writing.