

Hibba Kurdi

Programme Committee

I am a less than full-time ST7 cardiology trainee in imaging in Wales, having undertaken a period of research out of programme. One of the most meaningful aspects of this time was the sense of collaboration and community I developed with my peers. Even during challenging periods, when the work felt difficult and I questioned whether I would ever be a “superstar” academic, it was this shared experience that sustained me.

An early request to organise a research dinner unexpectedly evolved into a leadership role, where I brought colleagues together and fostered a supportive and inclusive environment. Building on this, I have since taken on further responsibilities, including my role as Secretary of the Welsh Hearts Club (Clwb Calon). In this position, I organise academic meetings by developing programmes with both external and internal speakers, securing industry sponsorship, and coordinating venues. These experiences have strengthened my organisational skills, attention to detail, and ability to deliver engaging and well-balanced programmes.

I believe these skills would translate well to the British Cardiovascular Society Programme Committee. I am particularly passionate about ensuring diverse representation, bringing together speakers and perspectives from across England, Scotland, and Wales, and creating opportunities for trainees and early-career cardiologists to feel included.

With approximately 18 months of training remaining, I would offer continuity within the role and would be keen to maintain my involvement as I transition into a consultant position.

For me, the BCS Annual Conference is not only a platform for showcasing advances in cardiology, but also a vital space for connection, where professional relationships are built and a sense of belonging is fostered. I would be proud to contribute to shaping such an environment.