

Dear Community,

The Railway Applications Section of INFORMS is seeking nominations of candidates for the upcoming RAS officers' election.

If you are passionate about everything rail-related and want to become more actively involved in this amazing community, please reach out! This is a great opportunity to broaden your network with industry and academic experts, as well as to improve yourself both personally and professionally.

To be considered as a candidate for an officer position please send a short bio (maximum 1000 words, including your name, current job description and membership, and plan for next year) to Andrea Arias (andrea.ariasllorenty@bnsf.com) by **Monday, August 23**. Please note that candidates must be current members of RAS and INFORMS.

The following 2022 RAS officer positions are open for nominations. Elected officers will begin their duties on January 1st, 2022.

1) Vice-Chair: 2 years of service – first year as Vice Chair, second year as Chair

Responsibilities as Vice Chair:

- The Vice Chair is the principal assistant administrative officer of the Section and shall act as Chair in the absence of the Chair
- Other duties as the Chair shall assign to him/her.
- Responsible for conducting the annual election of officers for the Section.

Responsibilities as Chair:

- Call and organize meetings of the Section
- Appoint ad hoc committees as required
- Appoint chairs and members of standing committees
- Manage the affairs of the Section between meetings
- Preside over Section business meetings

2) Secretary: 1 year of service. Responsibilities:

- Conduct the business communications of the Section
- Keep the minutes and records of the Section
- Maintain contact with INFORMS
- Receive reports of activities from those Section committees that may be established
- Responsible for the administration
- Make arrangements for the orderly transfer of all Section's records to the Secretary succeeding him/her

3) Treasurer: 1 year of service. Responsibilities:

- Administer and disburse of the Section funds as directed by the Section Chair
- Prepare and distribute reports of the financial condition of the Section
- Prepare the annual budget of the Section for submission to INFORMS
- Make arrangements for the orderly transfer of all Section's financial records to the Treasurer succeeding him/her

4) Public Relations Officer: 1 year of service. Responsibilities:

- Manage and make new additions to RAS website
- Manage RAS distribution list
- Make sure RAS newsletter with quality content is published and distributed in a timely fashion
- Identify content, frequency and methods of communicating with the membership
- Identify and execute strategies to retain current members and recruit new members
- Periodically (at least once a year) solicit feedback on member satisfaction

For more details, please refer to the Section's bylaws at <https://connect.informs.org/railway-applications/about-us/bylaws>. Please feel free to reach out to me or any other officers if you have questions.

Best,

Andrea Arias
Vice Chair – Railway Applications Section
Sr. Operations Research Specialist, BNSF Railway

