Chartered Institute of Information Security (CIISec)

Chairperson
Candidate Information Pack

Chartered Institute of
Information Security

INCLUSIVE BOARDS

Dear Members,

My journey with CIISec has been long but fortuitous, having first got involved when the IISP was founded in 2006, later establishing and chairing the Accreditation Committee for three years, and then being asked to take on the role of Chair of the Board of Directors, in 2011, which I am now planning to relinquish after a remarkable 11 years of heading the organisation. Given the great experiences I have enjoyed over those years, I have very mixed feelings about standing down from my role, especially as CIISec is an organisation that pioneered much of the thinking about professionalism and establishing standards in the information security discipline, and has inevitably evolved and grown in stature, to address and respond to the growing challenges of cybersecurity across all aspects of business and government. I am proud of the impact we have had in representing the interests of those in the profession.

As an institution, having achieved the honour of Royal Charter in 2019, closely followed by becoming part of the Cyber Security Alliance, and then our important role in the formation of the new UK Cyber Security Council, we have seen unprecedented change, which we believe will continue at pace, affecting the entire profession and those within it, especially CIISec. We know we can do more, can be more influential, even on the global stage, and can serve our member community, perhaps better than we have been able to do so far.

However, we are under no illusion that our time ahead will be easy and believe that to continue to evolve successfully, will require fresh thinking, determination, and energy, capabilities, beyond the ability of someone who has spent the last 11 years in the role as Chair! Now that information and cyber security are truly established as mainstream disciplines, new talent has inevitably followed the wealth of opportunities arising from this greater awareness and significance. We are determined to capture some of that talent and identify someone who could lead CIISec into the next exciting phase of its development, and willing to take on the role that I am departing.

Finding the right person is important for CIISec's continuity and future and will require a bit of time, and some formality, to identify the best possible candidates for the role. Because of that time factor, I have agreed with my fellow directors on the board that I will be happy to continue as Chair, on an interim basis, post-AGM, while the recruitment effort progresses, and suitable candidates are considered. I hope that is an acceptable arrangement for our members.

On a personal note, it has truly been an honour to be given the opportunity to Chair CIISec over the years to 2022! I should add that I am as passionate now about the Institute and its people as I was when I signed up to volunteer in 2006 and hope, when my replacement is found, that I am allowed to stay connected with the business and its people. Thank you.

With kind regards,

Alastair MacWillson
Dr. Alastair MacWillson
Chair, Chartered Institute of Information Security

About The Chartered Institute of Information Security (CIISec)

The Home of Cyber

The Chartered Institute of Information Security (CIISec) is the first pure play information and cyber security institution to have been granted Royal Charter status and is dedicated to raising the standard of professionalism in information and cyber security. CIISec provide a universally-accepted focal point for the information cyber security profession, it is an independent not-for-profit body governed by its members, ensuring standards of professionalism for training, qualifications, operating practices, and individuals. CIISec has a growing membership that represents over 10,000 individuals in the information and cyber security industry.

Our Objectives

CIISec represents professionalism, integrity and excellence within information and cyber security our principal objectives are;

- To promote, for the public benefit, the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in the field of information security
- To develop high ethical standards for practitioners in information security and to promote professional standards in the UK and overseas
- To act as an authoritative body for the purpose of consultation and research in matters of education or public interest concerning information security

CIISec helps make security a strategic concern at the heart of the business, instead of a technical add-on. It does this by helping put people at the core of information and cyber security: providing guidance, certification and helping develop the right training. It helps identify the right skills, in the right people, for the right roles – whether those people are accredited security professionals or fresh to the industry. It gives security professionals the skills and knowledge they need to deal with modern cyber threats throughout their careers: preventing stagnation and helping present a clear career path by showing precisely what skills professionals need to develop. And its framework-based approach to best practices and skills gives the industry a way to validate security skills and roles, allowing organisation and workers to ensure they truly are putting people at the core of cyber security.

We work with academia to help develop new courses and entry-routes into the profession, as well as corporate and government organisations to promote the growth of talent in the workplace. In doing so we provide a universally accepted focal point for the information security profession. We accredit information security professionals to ensure that they meet the highest professional standards and our competency-based memberships are widely recognised in the information security industry.

Commitment to Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

CIISec is an equal opportunities employer, committed to equal opportunities policies. We welcome applications from all backgrounds so that our board mirrors the community we serve. We welcome applications from anyone regardless of disability, ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexuality, religion, socio-economic background and political beliefs.

CIISec is deeply committed to inclusive working practices, so during the application process we commit to:

- Paying for childcare whilst you are at interviews where these take place in person.
- Paying for your travel costs to the office and back for interviews held in person.
- Making any reasonable adjustments – for example ensuring we have a sign language interpreter organised in advance if you'd like them.
- Providing this document in a Word document format readily available to download.
- Offering a guaranteed first stage interview with Inclusive Boards for disabled candidates who meet the minimum requirements for the role.

If there is anything else you are concerned about or think we could provide, please let us know.

About The Role

CIISec is seeking a Chair who can be recognised as a leader among the following stakeholder groups:

- The membership; The CIISec Fellow community; The commercial sector – especially the corporate membership; The government sector organisations that we interact with (including DCMS, NCSC); The UK Cyber Security Council; Amongst international security/risk professional bodies

The ideal candidate will be a strong communicator who can further the mission of CIISec and ensure we are heard in discussions by representing CIISec at Independent Advisory Committee (IAC), Government meetings (including with NCSC) and in the press. The candidate will ideally have good/existing links or connections within appropriate Government departments (civil servants and politicians alike) and other senior stakeholders in Government

There are several immediate objectives for the role:

- The chair will need to work to ensure that we are appropriately represented in the newly formed UK Cyber Security Council, that we manage that relationship and derive benefit from our membership in terms of profile, recognition, growth and our role in the profession

- Build and develop relationships around strategic themes, such as diversity and inclusion, education, apprenticeships, career progression, accreditation, professional ethics etc.

- Act as a voice for CIISec and the profession to raise awareness of the challenges faced by our members at all levels

- Drive the CIISec strategy and own its success – in terms of what do we, how we do it, our growth, and how we use and maximise our influence. Act as an agent for change, provide challenge to the board and secretariat, keep member needs at the forefront

- Foster collaboration and innovation internally and externally – including through liaison internationally with similar organisations.

- Understand the nature, role and purpose of CIISec and balance continuity with the need for change. Ensuring we respond to changes that are inevitable or beneficial, balanced against the status quo.

- Identify and build relationships with similar organisations internationally, including where we already have links (e.g. Singapore, Australia etc.) and others (e.g. US, Europe) to support international relationships and growth

Experience & Skills

- Knowledge of or experience in a not-for-profit and/or membership organisation on the board or as a trustee

- Stakeholder management, account management, business development experience or awareness, and effective and conversant networker and representative

- Experience of chairing/overseeing sub-committees reporting into the board as appropriate (project specific or operational e.g. finance, HR, risk)

- Knowledge of, and a recognition of the importance of, good corporate governance and risk management, particularly how that relates to not-for-profit/charitable entities

- Acting as an agent for change and continuous improvement and development of the organisation, its goals and processes.

- Can act as a sounding board, sanity check and ask questions of the board to inspire success; offer independent views and manage disagreements that might occur

- A knowledge of commercial law, cyber security/privacy law, governance and related issues would be an advantage.

Additional Information

Term of office:

- An offer of appointment will be made once all candidates have been interviewed, and will be subject to satisfactory completion of eligibility checks, including reference checks. If you are offered an appointment you will receive a detailed summary of your main terms and conditions. Terms of appointment are usually 4 years, renewable once.

Time Commitment:

- The equivalent of at least 3 days a month working solely for CIISec, in addition to board meetings.
- The post-holder will be UK-based but able to travel, if required, to support international relationships.

Location:

- We anticipate the need to visit the CIISec offices in Evesham at least twice a year, possibly more.

Remuneration:

- The role is not expected to be remunerated. Incurred expenses for specific items may be reimbursable with the agreement of the board.

Conflicts of Interest:

- All candidates will be asked to disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest and these will be discussed with the candidate to establish whether and what action is needed to avoid a conflict or the perception of a conflict.

Ratification:

- The appointment will be made by the board, based upon a recommendation from the nominations subcommittee.
- The membership of CIISec (full members and fellow) may need to ratify this decision at the next AGM.

How to Apply

The recruitment process is being undertaken by Inclusive Boards on behalf of CIISec. If you wish to apply for this position, please supply the following by 23.59 03/04/2022

- A detailed CV setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements.
- A covering letter (maximum two sides) highlighting your suitability for the role and how you meet the experience and skills. Please note that the covering letter is an important part of your application and will be assessed as part of your full application.
- Please provide details of two professional referees together with a brief statement of their relationship to you and over what period of time they have known you.
- Referees will not be contacted without your prior consent.
- Diversity monitoring form - your data will be stored separately from your application and will at no time be connected to you or your application.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call to discuss the role please email CIISec@inclusiveboards.co.uk or call 0207 267 8369.

Please send your CV and covering letter to CIISec@inclusiveboards.co.uk or visit www.inclusiveboards.co.uk/opportunities to apply online.