

Kara Hanson

I am Professor of Health System Economics at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and have nearly 30 years' experience in health economics research, focusing on low- and middle-income countries. I have published in leading health economics, health policy and public health journals and have led large, multi-partner research programmes applying health economics to critical health policy issues. I have been a member of IHEA since 1999 and was on the scientific committee for the 2017 congress. I have experience in governance roles, having served two terms as a member of the LSHTM Council and as trustee of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Issues that I would champion as a director include:

- Structuring the congress to enable greater interaction among researchers work on high, emerging and low-income settings. I am often left with the impression that there are 2 (or even 3) meetings taking place in parallel. We should be able to identify points of intersection that will facilitate greater exchange across geographies.
- Member benefits between congresses. There have been recent initiatives to refresh member services, but these could be further enhanced.
- Ensuring that board composition reflects the geographic diversity of its members. Other boards have achieved this through reserved membership for specific regions.
- Maximizing the synergies between the core central activities and regional association events.

I believe I am extremely well placed to pursue these issues, given my commitment to the field, research interests and governance experience.