

Jeannie Adetokunbo Okikiolu MA FCA

Practice owner
J O Forensic

Personal introduction:

I have worked as a forensic accountant for most of my career, initially at RSM Robson Rhodes and lately in my own practice. I was lucky to discover, quite early on, an area of work that appeals to me strongly, one where there is plenty of scope for me to think, to question, to analyse and to present the relevant facts.

On the regulatory side, I have been on secondments to the Serious Fraud Office to investigate a bank fraud and to HM Treasury where I provided accountancy advice. I have played leading roles in an inquiry for the DTI (as it was) and investigations for the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards and the FRC's disciplinary arm (the AIDB as it was).

My overseas experience includes a year spent in Abu Dhabi investigating matters relating to the failed bank BCCI.

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Involvement with ICAEW:

I am a member of the Forensic & Expert Witness group and have attended the annual conference. Also, as my work in dispute resolution has led to an interest in balanced risk management, I was pleased to have the chance to respond to the FRC's consultation on a revised corporate governance code. I have also written to *economia* in response to articles on management topics.

Motivation and ability to be a member of Council:

I am increasingly conscious of the value of my early training in audit. Public concerns about our profession's core functions of accounting and auditing need to be addressed, of course, to preserve our profession's standing, and I would like them to be addressed in a way that allows auditing to continue to provide a foundational experience for future generations of accountants.

Becoming a member of Council would give me the opportunity to influence how ICAEW meets this challenge, in partnership with other regulators, and I would be looking to take part in discussions to determine what sort of action is needed.

Strategic focus:

The most important issue for my London constituency, and for the profession at large, is the ongoing concern about whether accountants are playing a role that serves the public interest or whether they (or some of them) are only serving their own interests. It is clear that regulatory action is needed to make firms improve the quality of audit services and various initiatives are underway. Some of the proposals that have been made are strong, others seem weak and aimed merely at placating the public. ICAEW must work with other regulators to ensure that action is properly targeted and likely to be effective, otherwise it will reduce the standing of our profession.

Communication with members in the constituency:

I expect that there will be a range of views amongst members, particularly in London where the membership is diverse. Addressing the present challenges will involve face-to-face communication about ICAEW's initiatives with members from all specialisms and especially those most closely affected. I would expect to be active in the debate in my District Society and through relevant faculties and communities of ICAEW.

(see overleaf for list of nominators)

NOMINATED BY:

- Dr John William Robinson
- Robert Ian Jackson
- Gordon Peter Hodgen
- Charles Wesley Singh
- Philippa Jane Hill