

EFFO Board Membership Application
Supporting statement
Laura Lee Kamppila
Finnish Osteopathic Association

Dear Colleagues,

this statement is written to express my willingness to stand as candidate for EFFO Board Member during the spring 2021 AGM held on the 6th of March. I am grateful and honored for the support and confidence shown by my association members for this application.

Osteopathy has a very central role in my life in several forms. I enjoy working for the benefit of the whole profession as the president the Finnish Osteopathic Association, on the Nordic level in the context of Nordic Osteopathic Alliance and on the European level as representative of Finland since 2017 for the EFO/FORE-EFFO. Since May 2019 I have been the Chair of the Marketing and Communications Work Group. Clinical work brings me great joy and my recent joining the faculty of Metropolia University of Applied Sciences part-time gives me the great opportunity to teach and develop their educational program.

Leadership

As I leader I am a team player, aiming to bring out the best in every one of the team. This has been crucial during the last 12 months, facing challenges and new circumstances constantly. Bringing people together and creating a sense of belonging is important. The more versatile the group you work with, the more you have to be able to listen to the views and perceive the atmosphere to create understanding and good results. This is my strong point.

My leadership skills have developed running a co-operative as a CEO for the past six years, consisting of up to 15 osteopaths working in two clinics. Our way of working is based on sharing, listening, democratic decision making and continuous developing both clinically as well as a business. I believe that good communication and participation drive these common efforts further.

Having a leading position requires one to be a strong ambassador for the profession. Being able to create connections beyond our own profession is necessary. Acting as board member of the Finnish Musculoskeletal Association has given me the opportunity to represent osteopathy to other professionals, member organizations and patient groups. This has been an amazing education in breaking prejudices and building bridges.

Vision

The EFFO has a complex field to play in. As a profession osteopathy is defined by heterogeneity. This needs to be taken into account on the national and international level. I believe it is possible to work towards a unified professional identity that osteopaths feel well connected to.

The national associations are there to work for osteopathy locally, with the help and support of a Europe- wide network. EFFO should be a facilitator providing support politically and in a concrete way by sharing high level information and immaterial support when needed, doing so rapidly if needed.

The work of the EFFO should be seamless co-operation between the members, the working groups and the board and CEO in order to advance in the desired position in the health care scene and society in general. With the digital means on-line meetings are easily organized, the board can be close to the members, meetings with the chairs of the working groups can

be organized and information will travel more seamlessly. Decision making needs to be transparent and well communicated.

The last year has brought on many additional changes. Inevitably the future will keep challenging us even further, which requires strength and strong leadership also from organizations such as the EFFE. Past the current pandemic, on European level the population is aging, people live longer, and health issues are more complex. As osteopaths we need to be ready to do our part. We need to be well presented and defended as a profession. We are able to inspire one another in finding ways to make our voice heard internationally. In order to do this, the whole profession can show a unified, strong and convincing front. We need to be alert of the changes and trends both in and outside the profession and to adapt when needed.

Like the pandemic, global warming will influence the economy, which in turn could affect policymaking and the political climate. We know we offer a sustainable option for healthcare that can flourish next to mainstream medicine. We need to raise public awareness, to educate our professionals, to grab the attention of the decision makers and other stakeholders. We need to spread information on promotion and communication, offer guidance in implementing evidence informed practice and make our policymakers aware we are doing this. The, knowledge base within our members is wide. We need to unleash that force into action. EFFE can set the example and be on the wave of change.

Motivation& Competencies and Commitment

I appreciate my profession deeply. I want to drive this profession forwards: have more osteopaths do their work in better conditions, have recognition from other healthcare professionals as equals and have the large public benefiting from osteopathic healthcare. This is a common cause where all stakeholders need to be taken into consideration, a cause well worth working for. As the president of the FOA I am informed both of the national and international regulation which is needed when advancing the profession.

I hold the dual citizenship of Finland and the United States. Speaking many languages results from living abroad for many years. Understanding different cultures is natural to me. I easily follow what people mean even if their output is limited. I deal well in conflict situations. My working is organized and efficient. My work history has developed my skills in finding innovative solutions. The soon completed Master- level studies in Health Business Management has provided me with skills in human resource management, understanding of health economics and strategy and management in health business.

Challenges are there to be overcome, problems to be solved. I am a hard worker and would love to have the opportunity to work for a good and bright future for osteopathy and working for the board of EFFE would be just that. I believe my experiences and positive energy could greatly benefit our profession on a larger scale.

Contacts of referees:

Päivi Koponen
Osteopath
Chair board of directors,
Osteopatiakeskus Valo
Hietalahdenranta 19
00180 Helsinki
Finland
paivi@osteopatiakeskusvalo.fi
+358 (0)40 042 0732

Sandra Rinne
Osteopath
Head of Degree Programme Osteopathy
Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
Myllypurontie 1
00920 Helsinki
Finland
sandra.rinne@metropolia.fi
+358 (0)50 584 9376

