Director of Science

Health Effects Institute
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Health Effects Institute (HEI), a leading independent, nonprofit research institute, has provided rigorous, impartial, and important science to the national and global public debate on the health effects of air pollution over four decades. HEI has helped advance the scientific body of knowledge and informed key policy decisions, both in the US and abroad, contributing to better air pollution regulations and improved human health. Today, with the retirement of HEI’s distinguished Director of Science, a unique opportunity has emerged for a top scientific leader to join its leadership team and to contribute to its increasingly critical mission.

Supported jointly by the US Environmental Protection Agency and industry, and periodically by other domestic and international partners, HEI provides research and studies to inform key national and international regulatory decisions and other actions that are directly relevant to improving air quality. HEI’s approach is centered on funding – and then intensively peer reviewing - high-quality, independent scientific studies that are strategically selected and carefully designed to inform upcoming decisions about air quality policy. HEI’s scientific agenda is identified by its standing Research Committee—composed of renowned scientists with expertise in a variety of disciplines relevant to the health effects of air pollution—and scientific staff after extensive consultation with sponsors and other stakeholders. HEI funds research at leading institutions throughout the world through competitive selection processes and closely oversees this research. HEI’s standing Review Committee, with similar expertise as the Research Committee, then intensively peer reviews a full report of results, and HEI publishes the study’s findings and a Commentary of the Review Committee broadly, enabling policymakers to apply it in their actions to protect the public health.

The Director of Science is a pivotal member of HEI’s senior management team, overseeing internal operations and interacting with key external constituencies, including the Board of Directors, HEI’s scientific committees, sponsors, and the scientific community. They report to the President and are the strategic and administrative head of scientific operations. They work closely with a broad range of stakeholders and HEI team members in all aspects of the organization’s scientific work, including strategic planning, research design and project management, and scientific oversight and review.

HEI seeks as Director of Science a highly accomplished, energetic, and articulate leader who brings a strong science background and the capacity to interact effectively with a wide variety of individuals. They must possess a broad view of health effects science, solid management capabilities and experience, outstanding communication skills, and the capacity to lead, guide, and mentor a highly capable and accomplished group of scientists.

Health Effects has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national search firm, to assist with this recruitment. Confidential inquiries, nominations, and applications may be directed to:

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