



EUROPEAN ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

Nomination Form EONS Board

I hereby confirm my intention to stand as a nominated candidate for election to the EONS Board of the European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS).

1. NOMINEE'S NAME: Matthew Fowler

2. NOMINATION FOR ROLE OF:

EONS President-Elect

3. ELIGIBILITY:

I am an EONS Individual Member.

I would like to become EONS President-Elect because

The European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS) has played a crucial role in advancing cancer nursing across Europe, and I am deeply committed to its mission of supporting and empowering oncology nurses. Having served as a Board member for the past five years, holding roles as Communications Working Group Co-Chair, Secretary, and currently Treasurer, I have had the privilege of contributing to the governance and strategic direction of the Society. These experiences have strengthened my resolve to further elevate the impact of EONS, ensuring it remains at the forefront of oncology nursing research, communication, advocacy, education, and of particular importance, EONS Early Career Nurses.

As a senior leader in cancer nursing, over the past four decades I have dedicated my career to improving cancer care at both a clinical and strategic level. I work as a Nurse Consultant for Cancer Services at University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust. My role involves leading a team, overseeing service delivery, delivering nurse-led clinics in colorectal oncology and cancer associated thrombosis; ensuring that cancer patients receive high-quality, evidence-based care. Additionally, I have contributed to policy development, financial oversight, and governance—all of which are crucial skills for the President-Elect role.

In less than one month, I will graduate with a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) from Duke University, an achievement that reflects my commitment to academia and the advancement of cancer nursing. This qualification has further enhanced my ability to develop innovative models of care, lead research initiatives, and advocate for evidence-based practice—all of which align with the strategic objectives of EONS. My passion for education and professional development extends beyond my hospital; I have lectured internationally, mentored future cancer nursing leaders, and participated in global collaborations to improve oncology nursing practice.

As President-Elect, my primary motivation is to strengthen EONS as a unified voice for cancer nurses across Europe. I want to ensure that nurses are not only recognized for their critical role in cancer care but are also supported with the resources, education, and opportunities necessary to drive innovation and improve patient outcomes. Key areas I hope to focus on include:

- **Strengthening Professional Development:** Expanding EONS's educational initiatives, mentorship programs, and leadership development opportunities to ensure oncology nurses are well-equipped to take on advanced roles.
- **Enhancing Advocacy Efforts:** Amplifying EONS's role in European health policy discussions, advocating for improved working conditions, recognition, and resources for cancer nurses.
- **Fostering International Collaboration:** Building stronger alliances with oncology nursing societies worldwide to share best practices and influence global oncology nursing standards.
- **Promoting Research and Evidence-Based Practice:** Encouraging more nurses to engage in research, publication, and knowledge-sharing, positioning EONS as a leader in oncology nursing research.

None of this can be done in isolation; I will work collaboratively with the EONS working groups, President and Board members as well as the working groups and wider EONS community to ensure that cancer nursing remains first and foremost our number one priority.

I firmly believe that my clinical leadership experience, governance expertise, and deep understanding of cancer nursing make me an ideal candidate for this role. Having been actively involved in EONS, I understand the organization's strengths, challenges, and future opportunities. As President-Elect, I will work closely with the Board, management team, and the broader oncology nursing community to ensure that EONS continues to grow, adapt, and lead in an ever-evolving healthcare landscape.

In summary, my motivation for becoming EONS President-Elect is rooted in my commitment to advancing cancer nursing, my extensive leadership experience, and my vision for strengthening the Society's role in education, advocacy, and professional development. I am eager to bring my expertise, passion, and strategic vision to this role, ensuring that oncology nurses across Europe are empowered to provide the best possible care for patients.

My aims during my term as EONS President-Elect would be

As EONS President-Elect, my overarching goal is to ensure that all cancer nurses across Europe, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), are supported, empowered, and recognized for their contributions to cancer care. With my experience as an

EONS Board member for five years and my clinical leadership role, I will focus on the following priorities:

1. Expanding Access to Education and Professional Development ○ Strengthen educational opportunities for nurses working in LMICs, ensuring they have access to high-quality training, leadership programmes, and evidence-based resources.
 - Develop targeted mentorship programmes that support nurses working in both clinical and academic settings, promoting career progression and leadership development.
 - Advocate for improved funding and scholarships to enable more oncology nurses—particularly those in resource-limited settings—to attend EONS educational programmes and conferences.
2. Advocating for Oncology Nurses Across All Work Environments ○ Strengthen EONS’ policy and advocacy efforts to ensure that oncology nurses working in clinical, academic, and research roles receive equal recognition, career opportunities, and support. ○ Work towards the harmonisation of cancer nursing roles across Europe, ensuring a clear career framework for nurses in different practice settings.
 - Address workforce challenges such as burnout, role sustainability, and safe working conditions, particularly in under-resourced regions.
3. Fostering International Collaboration and Research ○ Expand EONS partnerships with global oncology nursing organizations, ensuring LMIC nurses have a platform to engage in international collaborations.
 - Support initiatives that increase oncology nursing-led research, particularly in areas relevant to cancer care in resource-limited settings.
4. Ensuring EONS’ Long-Term Growth & Sustainability ○ Strengthen financial sustainability by expanding grant opportunities and industry partnerships to support oncology nurses across all settings. ○ Enhance membership engagement, ensuring that EONS remains a dynamic, inclusive, and forward-thinking society.

As President-Elect, I will ensure that EONS remains an advocate for all oncology nurses—regardless of geographic or professional setting—strengthening education, policy influence, and global collaborations.

The skills and experience that I would be able to bring to the role are

As a cancer nurse, leader, educator, and advocate, I bring a wealth of experience and skills to the role of EONS President-Elect. With over 25 years in oncology nursing and five years on the EONS Board, I have developed expertise in clinical practice, governance, financial oversight, advocacy, and professional development. My goal is to use this experience to support and strengthen EONS, ensuring that oncology nurses across Europe—especially early-career professionals and those in low-resource settings—have the support, education, and leadership opportunities they deserve.

1. Leadership & Governance Experience

I have been an EONS Board member for five years, serving as:

- Treasurer (current role) – Overseeing financial planning, budget management, and sustainable resource allocation, ensuring the long-term financial health of EONS.
- Secretary – Ensuring transparency, governance compliance, and effective communication within EONS.
- Communications Working Group Co-Chair – Strengthening engagement with members and stakeholders.

Prior to joining the Board, I was a member of the advocacy working group and played a key role alongside my peers in advocating for safe working practices for cancer nurses across Europe and have equally had the opportunity to lobby MEPs.

These roles have provided me with deep insight into EONS governance and strategy, equipping me with the leadership skills needed to take on the President-Elect position. I have participated in multiple Board and working group meetings, ensuring that decisions align with EONS's mission, governance best practices, and long-term sustainability. I am committed to ensuring that EONS remains a strong and well-governed organization that serves its members effectively.

2. Expertise in Clinical Oncology Nursing & Advanced Practice

As a Nurse Consultant for Cancer Services, I lead a team of ANPs in oncology and haematology, overseeing advanced cancer care services. My clinical expertise includes:

- Cancer treatment management – Running chemotherapy review clinics, prescribing systemic anti-cancer therapy (SACT), and supporting treatment decisions.
- Oncology emergencies & acute care – Leading a triage assessment service for haematology and oncology patients.
- Patient-centered cancer care – Ensuring that all patients receive high-quality, evidence-based care throughout their cancer journey.

My first-hand experience in cancer care gives me a direct understanding of the challenges oncology nurses face, from staffing shortages to increasing workloads. As President-Elect, I will advocate for policies that support better working conditions, fair recognition, and enhanced career development opportunities for oncology nurses.

3. Commitment to Early-Career & Young Oncology Nurses

One of my key priorities is supporting young and early-career oncology nurses to ensure the future of cancer nursing is strong. Throughout my career, I have been:

- A mentor and educator – Supporting early-career cancer nurses, student nurses, and trainee ANPs to develop their clinical and leadership skills.
- A lecturer and trainer – Delivering oncology nursing education at national and international conferences, workshops, and academic institutions..

If I become President-Elect, I will work to expand leadership programmes, mentorship opportunities, and career development initiatives for both early-career oncology nurses as well as experienced oncology nurses, ensuring they have the support and resources needed to reach their full potential.

4. Advocacy & Policy Influence for Oncology Nursing

I have spent many years advocating for oncology nursing as a profession, ensuring that nurses are recognized, valued, and included in high-level decision-making. My advocacy work includes:

- Speaking at EONS, ESMO, and international conferences, raising awareness of the challenges and opportunities in oncology nursing.

- Collaborating with policymakers and professional organisations to push for improved oncology nursing education, workforce investment, and policy support.
- Championing equal recognition for cancer nurses, ensuring that nurses in research and education receive the same career progression opportunities regardless of the setting they practice in.

As EONS President-Elect, I will continue to be a strong voice for oncology nurses, ensuring they are represented in European health policy discussions and global cancer care strategies.

5. Research, Education & Global Collaboration

I am passionate about enhancing research and education within oncology nursing, ensuring that nurses have access to high-quality learning opportunities and can contribute to research that shapes cancer care. Some of my contributions include:

- Published research in oncology nursing, particularly on topics such as chemotherapy management, nursing leadership, and supportive cancer care with a particular interest in low-risk febrile neutropenia.
- International teaching and training, including lecturing at oncology nursing programmes in Europe, the USA, and LMICs.

As President-Elect, I will work to strengthen EONS' research programmes, encourage nurseled studies, and promote international knowledge-sharing to advance oncology nursing practice.

6. Financial & Strategic Planning Experience

As Treasurer of EONS, I have been responsible for oversight of financial planning, budget management, and long-term resource allocation. I understand the financial and operational aspects of running a non-profit society, ensuring that resources are used effectively to support education, research, and advocacy initiatives.

Moving forward, I will work with the management team, the Board, EONS and wider membership to:

- Secure sustainable funding and partnerships to expand EONS programmes.

- Ensure responsible financial management, keeping EONS financially strong and able to support its members.
- Grow membership engagement, ensuring oncology nurses across all career levels feel included, supported, and represented.

Matthew Fowler, RN, MSc

Consultant Nurse for Cancer Services | Treasurer, European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS)



Matthew Fowler is a clinical cancer nurse, leader, and educator with over 25 years of experience in oncology nursing. He currently serves as a Consultant Nurse for Cancer Services at University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust, where he provides specialist cancer care, leads a team of ANPs, and provides clinical supervision to both trainee and qualified ANPs working in cancer care.

As an EONS Board Member for five years, Matthew has held key leadership roles, including Treasurer, Secretary, and Communications Working Group Co-Chair. As Treasurer, he oversees financial management, budget planning, and resource allocation, ensuring EONS's long-term sustainability. He has contributed to governance, policy development, and professional education initiatives, helping to shape the future of oncology nursing across Europe.

Matthew is one month away from completing a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Duke University, further strengthening his expertise in cancer nursing leadership, healthcare policy, and evidence-based practice. His academic achievements also include an MSc in Nursing, a Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Clinical Practice, and a Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Cancer Nursing Practice

A passionate advocate for education, mentorship, and workforce development, Matthew has presented at EONS, ESMO, and international conferences, championing oncology nursing leadership and clinical practice. He is particularly committed to supporting early-career oncology nurses and expanding professional development opportunities, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

As EONS President-Elect, Matthew aims to strengthen cancer nursing leadership , impact upon advocacy, and foster global collaboration to advance oncology nursing.