

Humble Bee Bio

Non-Executive Director Vacancy

Contact: Julia Chambers (Chair of the Board)
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Role: Non-Executive Director, with Industry Experience in Biomaterial Engineering, Especially within the Textiles Sector

We're looking for someone amazing to join our board as we prepare for our next milestones.

Humble Bee Bio is a [Hello Tomorrow Top 500](#) deep tech start-up using the power of synthetic biology to help solve one of our toughest global challenges, plastic pollution. Humble Bee Bio aims to disrupt the plastics industry with a completely novel bioplastic based on a protein discovered in nature and manufactured by microbes. The resulting products will have properties that could replace some of the existing, highly polluting chemical plastics used in many modern industrial markets, such as durable water repellent (DWR) finish – a coating added to the fabric of our waterproof/ weatherproof garments.

Our purpose and vision:

Humble Bee Bio is purpose-driven and applies world-class scientific interdisciplinary research to commercial problems. We are striving to have maximum positive environmental and social impact.

We want to take plastics pollution out of the realm of individual responsibility and replace the materials that are used by industry when creating consumer products. Our team has a passion for the health of people and the planet, and we learn from nature – taking inspiration from nature's materials (biomimicry).

Our strategic priorities:

Having successfully identified the location of our novel protein's target gene in our very special Bee, we are now preparing for a proof-of-concept programme by expressing our gene sequence in a recombinant system to create our proprietary

protein material for characterization and alignment with customer and market needs. We're aiming to bring more diversity to our board, and need someone who is happy in the fast-paced world of a start-up and who has the rigour required for being a director of an early stage biotech company.

Director Duties:

The Board of Directors is collectively accountable for the Company's performance in relation to its mission and strategic objectives, and for the effective stewardship of financial and human resources. Board members are responsible for acting in the best long-term interests of the Company and the community and will bring to the task of informed decision-making a broad knowledge and an inclusive perspective.

The Humble Bee Bio Board currently consists of 5 Directors, but with two board members approaching the end of their term, we are aiming to increase our diversity with a mix of competencies, backgrounds, and expertise.

Principle Duties:

Every member of the Board of Directors is expected to create value for the business and to do the following:

- > Be an ambassador for the Company
- > Prepare for / participate in board meetings and support governance decisions once made
- > Contribute to the work of the board as a member of a board committee
- > Review the Company's mission and objectives and inform the development of a strategic plan
- > Monitor the performance of the Company in relation to its mission, objectives, core values and reputation

- > Participate in the approval the budget and monitor the financial performance of the Company in relation to it
- > Participate in the evaluation of the CEO; if required, participate in the hiring of, or the releasing of, the CEO
- > Identify prospective board members and help recruit them
- > Participate in the evaluation of the board itself (annual board self-evaluation)

Experience & Qualifications:

In addition to a passion for biotechnology and protecting our planet, we are seeking those who will bring the following key skills and experience:

- > Industry experience in biomaterial engineering, development and commercialisation, especially within the textile sector
- > Experience of successfully overseeing the execution of large (Series A/B) capital rounds is highly desirable
- > A highly networked individual with connections to international partners/ investors interested in early-stage synthetic biology opportunities and biomaterial innovation
- > Proven skills and experience as a Board Director (or governance in other/similar roles)
- > Someone who'll ask good questions and is ok with a bit of risk (but can manage it too)
- > Someone constructive, courageous, proactive and results focused
- > Strategic thinker, able to identify new opportunities and provide guidance on realising those opportunities
- > A collaborative and collegial working style

Commitment required:

- > The five-member board meets ~8 times per year, predominantly online, with weekly 15min stand ups between meetings. For those based outside NZ, attendance via Zoom for some meetings is welcomed. We aim to meet in person

at least once per year for a board meeting and a strategy session.

- > Geographical considerations – Humble Bee Bio is based in New Zealand

Details at a glance:

Length of term: 24 months with the option to renew

Applications open: Currently open

Applications close: Aiming to fill the positions as soon as quality candidates are identified

Interviews: TBD

Directors' Fees: Each Director is entitled to be remunerated with cash, and shares or options.

We want talented people who can commit to giving the company the headspace and time it needs. So, if this sounds like you then come and join a truly aspirational biotech company. Cultivate your mentoring skills by helping grow future leaders. Gain an in-depth insight into the revolution that is synthetic biology where we aim to push the boundaries with science to spearhead positive change.

Apply:

To apply, please send your CV and cover letter outlining why you would be an ideal candidate to Julia Chambers (Chair of the Board) at julia@humblebee.co.nz