President’s Update

You will probably have read in previous newsletters that I had to temporarily step down as President of IPEM due to illness and Peter Hoskins took up the role of Acting President of IPEM. I am pleased to tell you that I am now back at work and back as President of IPEM and I would like to thank Pete and all my colleagues for the support they have given to me and IPEM, which has allowed me to focus on my recovery. I would also like to thank all those who sent kind messages of support, it was greatly appreciated.

Much has happened whilst I was away, not least that the UK has voted to leave the EU and we have a new Prime Minister! More importantly there was the successful launch of the ‘Science for Patient Benefit’ campaign. I understand there are at least 60 ambassadors for the campaign actively working to promote what medical physics and engineering does for patients. This campaign will continue as a theme at the MPEC conference in Manchester on 12 - 14 September.

A first at this conference is a dedicated, free members’ day on the 12th which I’m delighted to report is now full. I look forward to seeing you there and to hearing the fantastic list of speakers we have lined up, including the Woolmer Lecture from Professor Andrew Taylor on ‘Can engineering and imaging help us design cardiovascular devices?’ An area of particular interest to me after my recent illness!

On the evening of the 12th all delegates are invited to join us and IOP Publishing to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our journal Physics in Medicine and Biology (PMB). This is a major milestone for us and IOP Publishing particularly as PMB continues to go from strength to strength demonstrated by a recent increase of Impact Factor.

The quality and breadth of presentations continues on the next two days and there are still places available on these days if you would like to join us. I’m particularly excited to see 3-D printing and RFID technologies on the programme; many of you will know I think these are major developments in modern health care.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at MPEC.

The Science for Patient Benefit campaign

Thank you to all the members who have been in touch so far to be their hospital’s ‘champion’ to distribute the Science for Patient Benefit campaign materials around their departments. The materials to support the campaign include posters, banners, lanyards and pens, and they are available to you for use in your workplace. To view them, please click here.

How IPEM is working for you

Joining the Science Council summit on the science profession post-EU

IPEM will be attending a Science Council summit next month, which will be...
discussing the ramifications and opportunities that Brexit presents the science profession. The summit will bring together experts and practitioners to clarify the exit process, agree what needs to be done to influence it on behalf of UK science and ensure scientists can better serve the public through their work.

IPEM is also part of the Royal Academy of Engineering-led 'Europe project' to identify and mitigate the impact of Brexit on the engineering profession.

Funding innovation
Dr Laurence Kenney, Professor of Rehabilitation Technologies at the Centre for Health Sciences Research at the University of Salford, received an IPEM Innovation Award two years ago. The funding was used to purchase a prosthetic hand and the first paper on the work undertaken was published this month in Frontiers in Neurorobotics. The funding from IPEM was acknowledged in the paper and to read more, please click here.

IPEM International Centre Travel Grants are open to Full members and Fellows and help to fund visits to international centres for the purpose of bringing back relevant expertise to the UK or to establish research collaboration. There are two grants of £3,000 available each year to cover travel and accommodation costs. Congratulations go to Dr Lucy Kershaw, principal clinical scientist at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, who has been awarded £667 to visit Professor Michael Milosevic's laboratory at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Canada, to examine the use of FAZA PET-MRI to image hypoxia in cervical cancer patients.

For more on IPEM's prizes and awards, please click here.

Bringing Department Heads together
A Heads of Department meeting is being held at MPEC on Monday 12 September from 2.45pm to 4.15pm. It is being chaired by Dr Richard Scott FIPEM, Vice President Professional, and key speakers will be Professor David Brettle, IPEM President, Dr Elly Castellano, Science, Research and Innovation Council Director, Dr Keith Ison OBE FIPEM, and Dr Jemimah Eve, IPEM’s Workforce Intelligence Unit Manager. The topics for discussion, suggested by members, include IPEM’s strategy, Sustainability and Transformation Plans, workforce planning, the future of the MPE register, and the Higher Specialist Scientist Register. To attend this meeting without registering for the conference, please email conferences@ipem.ac.uk.

The free Members’ day on 12 September is now full but you can still book for the scientific days on 13 and 14 September by registering here.

Workforce Intelligence Unit (WIU)
With the Radiotherapy Workforce Position Statement published (and then revised as new data emerged) in July, the WIU is turning attention to the Ultrasound Workforce dataset, and aims to publish a report in September. Also check out the updated map of MPCE departments. Please contact Jemimah@ipem.ac.uk with any updates for this.

And finally...
MEP Reviews Editor
Medical Engineering and Physics is looking for a Reviews Editor to work with the editorial team. The journal provides a forum for the publication of the latest developments in biomedical engineering, and reflects the essential multidisciplinary nature of the subject. For information on how to apply, please click here. The closing date is Friday 14 October.

Correction to AGM papers
Hugh Wilkins has contacted us to point out that he was wrongly given the
title 'Dr' in the AGM papers sent out to members. His title should be 'Mr.' This was an administrative error in the office, and we apologise for this. We can confirm the information supplied to the Trustees by Hugh Wilkins in support of his application did not state that his qualifications included a PhD.

For more information, see www.ipem.ac.uk or telephone 01904 610821 or email office@ipem.ac.uk