



### IN BRIEF

World Congress 2024 bid update

Opportunities as Peer (Technical) Assessors with the MPACE project - more [here](#)

Get involved with IPEM with some career development opportunities available [now](#)

Become a medical physics examiner with the Royal College of Radiologists - more [here](#)

Read IPEM's recent consultation responses [here](#)

Take part in the STP improvement review survey [here](#)

Register for the IPEM MPE update meeting [now](#)

Take control of the @NHS Twitter account [here!](#)

Apply for a range of IPEM prizes and awards [now](#)

#### President's Update



Happy 2018 to all of you! This is an important year for the NHS, as it celebrates its 70th birthday in July. I was at a healthcare leader's summit a few days ago, run by the Deputy Chief Scientific Officer, Fiona Carragher. It was an inspiring day, with some excellent speakers and discussions. One thing that came out very strongly is how essential we are in making the healthcare system better by, for example, harnessing technology and innovation. There are a number of public outreach events happening in the coming months to inspire and inform young people to think about a career in science and engineering. This is the Year of Engineering, which IPEM is supporting, next month sees the International Day for Women and Girls in Science, followed in March by Healthcare Science Week and the Big Bang Fair. Please do take an interest in these events and get involved if you can - they are important to inspire people about our subject.

I was privileged to give a talk at the Trainee Induction Day in York recently. I was very impressed by their enthusiasm and I told them the Institute sees their development as very important for the future of our profession. We plan to introduce mentoring, career development and nurturing schemes, which will benefit not only our trainees but indeed all of us.

#### Congratulations!

Congratulations go to the following Full Members who have been accepted as Fellows:

- Elizabeth Macauley
- Warren Macdonald
- Michael Dolan



#### IPEM LATEST

[MPACE opportunities for radiotherapy physicists and clinical engineers](#)

#### Trainee News

[Trainee induction day](#)

[Diary of a trainee](#)

#### Conferences

[Breast MRI for Screening, Diagnosis, Treatment Planning & Evaluation, 27 February in London](#)

[Wheelchair Stability and Tuning, 6 March in York](#)

[MPE update, 14 March in London](#)

Healthcare Scientist of the Year and IPEM Fellow, Professor Paul White, has become one of five healthcare scientists to be appointed as part of NHS England's [Clinical Entrepreneurs Programme](#).

## How IPEM is working for you

### World Congress 2024 bid

The Trustees reviewed the IPEM bid to host the World Congress on medical physics and bioengineering in Glasgow in 2024 at their meeting on 25 January. Having considered the financial demands of running the Congress, and in particular its effect on IPEM's cashflow in intervening years, the Board decided that the risks to IPEM's achievement of its own objectives were too great. The bid will not therefore be put forward for consideration by IUPESM.

### 2018 is the Year of Engineering

This is the [Year of Engineering](#), a Government initiative aimed at tackling the engineering skills gap and widening the pool of young people who join the profession. IPEM is supporting this campaign to highlight the crucial role that engineering plays in delivering modern healthcare. Watch out for our special webpage and eye-catching poster which will be coming soon. The Royal Academy of Engineering, in partnership with 11 major engineering organisations, recently launched [This is Engineering](#), a multi-year campaign aimed at changing the perception of the sector among young people.

### Consultation work

Members have provided invaluable input into three recent major consultations. The [Migration Advisory Committee](#) launched its call for evidence on EEA workers in the UK last summer and you can read IPEM's response [here](#). A response was submitted to the Department of Health & Social Care's consultation on '[Promoting professionalism, reforming regulation](#)', which you see [here](#). The second consultation by NHS England on [Modernising radiotherapy services](#) was responded to by members of the Radiotherapy Special Interest Group and the Radiotherapy Professional Standards Group, which you can read [here](#).

### Become an examiner with the RCR

The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) is looking for a medical physicist to join the First FRCR Examination Committee (Physics) to help develop and run the examinations.

This is an opportunity for physicists teaching trainees to be involved with setting exam questions for trainee clinical colleagues enabling assessment of the physical principles that underpin diagnostic medical imaging.

Bal Sanghera, IPEM's former Honorary Secretary and Trustee, said he would recommend people applying, particularly those with knowledge of recent changes in radiation regulations. Applications open in September but you can get more information [here](#).

### Scientist Training Programme survey

The National School of Healthcare Science is undertaking a review of the current design and structure of the Scientist Training Programme (STP). An [online survey](#) forms part of the review and the findings from it will be used to develop evidence-based recommendations for the National School of Healthcare Science about how the design and structure of the STP might be improved. The survey closes on Sunday 4 February.

### Model Linac project update

As reported in last month's newsletter, IPEM ended its partnership with the Fairybricks charity, who were unable to deliver on the project. The exciting news now is that Past President David Brettle is due to meet a

[more 2018 conferences](#)

## External events & activities

[Government urged to safeguard supply of medical radioisotopes post-Brexit](#)

[BSHR annual lecture on Edith and Florence Stoney](#)

[Write for EMP News](#)

[Hybrid imaging assessment survey - the role of the medical physicist](#)

[Apply for BIR/IEL Make it Better Service award](#)

[31 January is final deadline for abstract submission for 2018 World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering](#)

[Women into Leadership Healthcare conference](#)

[BMA Foundation research grants](#)

[Volunteer to help the Uganda Blood Transfusion Service](#)

[Early career awards with IAMBE](#)

[PMB webinar: An introduction to best practices for refereeing a journal manuscript](#)

[ECMP 2018: Abstract deadline extended](#)

[L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science UK & Ireland Fellowship awards programme](#)

[Read the latest European Journal on Medical Physics](#)

[Standing up for Science EU workshop, 16 March in Brussels](#)

**IPEM Journals  
Pick of the month**

new potential partner very soon to hopefully take this project forward to give model brick kits to children undergoing radiotherapy - watch this space!

#### **MPE update meeting**

Are you a current Medical Physics Expert (MPE) and are unsure how recent changes affect you, or do you want to become a MPE but are not sure what you need to do? The IPEM MPE update meeting, being held in London on 14 March, provides the opportunity to find out about how the latest changes/proposals will affect you. As well as updates from the Department of Health and Public Health England, there will be talks from members of the MPE Working Party about how MPE will directly affect diagnostic radiology, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy physicists, and plenty of time for questions and discussion. The registration deadline is 28 February and there is more information [here](#).

#### **Take control of the NHS!**

Are you active on social media and fancy spending a week being in control of the @NHS Twitter account? @NHS celebrates the health service through the stories of the people either working for, or being treated by, the NHS. Each week a new patient or a member of NHS staff takes control of the Twitter account. If you are interested in becoming the curator of @NHS for a week, then email [england.social@nhs.net](mailto:england.social@nhs.net) with a short biography and include your Twitter account.

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#### **Workforce Intelligence Unit**

The Radiotherapy Physics Census data on physics technologists shows that the vacancy rate has reduced from 2015, even more than the Clinical Scientists. Physics technologist vacancies are now at 6.2%, compared to 9.2% in 2015. Like Clinical Scientists, this may be as a result of recruiting from abroad, as 14% of the radiotherapy workforce is from overseas. It would be very useful to hear from those who have recruited technologists recently as to whether this agrees with their experience. The technologist establishment has not quite increased as much as anticipated, but this alone does not account for the reduction in the percentage of vacancies.

The Diagnostic Radiology and Radiation Protection Workforce Survey is with the relevant Special Interest Groups for a final check before being sent out very soon.

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#### **And finally...**

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent membership survey as more than 1,000 of you took the time to complete it! The results of the survey and an action plan based on the responses are going to the Trustee Board and we will publish the results in due course.



The winner of the prize draw for a £25 Amazon voucher for completing the survey was Avnish Sharma, Chief Radiotherapy Technologist at the SMH Cancer Centre in New Delhi, India. Avnish has spent more than a decade working in the field of radiotherapy and is the Vice President of the Society of Indian Radiotherapy Technologists.



For more information, see [www.ipem.ac.uk](http://www.ipem.ac.uk)  
or telephone 01904 610821 or email: [office@ipem.ac.uk](mailto:office@ipem.ac.uk)

#### **Physics in Medicine and Biology**

[Nanoparticle radio-enhancement: principles, progress and application to cancer treatment](#)

#### **Physiological Measurement**

[Respiratory mechanics to understand ARDS and guide mechanical ventilation](#)

#### **Medical Engineering and Physics**

[Instrumented socket inserts for sensing interaction at the limb-socket interface](#)