President’s update

I am honoured, excited and must admit to being slightly nervous to be your new President. I am also the first President to be retired (I finished my working career in the NHS in the summer) and this does mean that I can give my full commitment to the role and to serving you, our members, who are the life-blood of the Institute, without asking my hospital for permission! We need a strong, vibrant membership of engineers, physicists, technologists and academics. I am also very keen to grow the number of technologists and academics who are members. Our links with the NHS, academia and industry is unique and is something that many other organisations can only look on with envy at the wealth, depth and breadth of expertise we have, which can be brought to bear to benefit patients.

I benefitted from mentorship throughout my career and I am keen to encourage mentoring during my time as President, to help develop people’s skills and experience, and to support each other.

It was wonderful to meet so many members at the MEIBioeng/MPEC conference earlier this month, which was a huge success, and I look forward to meeting many more of you over the coming months.

Finally, I would like to thank and pay tribute to Professor David Brettle for his time as President; the Science for Patient Benefit campaign is a fantastic legacy to leave behind and I hope I can emulate that success and carry on his great work.

How IPEM is working for you

Monthly Direct Debit option for membership fees
You still have time to change your payment method for this year’s membership renewals to monthly Direct Debit. Just fill out the forms and send them to the finance department.

Change to membership status?
If your circumstances have changed which could affect your membership status, for example, a career break or retirement, please get in touch with our Membership and Training Department at membership@ipem.ac.uk with details.

MEIBioeng/MPEC 2017
The first-ever joint MEIBioeng/MPEC conference, which was held at Sandown Park earlier this month, was a great success. To read more about it, click here. Don't forget to put a date in your diary for next year when MPEC will be held in York between 18-20 September.

Gold Medal winners
Gold Medal awards have been presented to IPEM members who have made outstanding contributions in their field of work. The IPEM prizes and awards programme, which was fully updated two years ago, introduced Gold Medal awards for IPEM members who have made outstanding contributions in academia, innovation and healthcare, as well as recognition for the achievements of early career members. To read about this year's recipients, click here.
Launch of RAE's inclusion report
Rosemary Cook, IPEM's Chief Executive Officer, spoke at the launch of the Royal Academy of Engineering's 'Creating cultures where all engineers thrive' report, which aims to create a more inclusive culture to attract and embrace a more diverse workforce. Please do help IPEM to understand its members better by completing our very own Equality, Diversity and Inclusion survey.

Brexit meeting
Dr Jemimah Eve, IPEM's Workforce Intelligence Unit Manager, attended a high-level meeting of the Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) members to share insight, identify shared messages and goals for the coming year of the Brexit negotiations. The meeting was followed by a conversation with UKRI CEO Designate, Sir Mark Walport. Sir Mark is keen to engage with leaders of CaSE member organisations on the role of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) in securing positive outcomes for science over the next few years.

Honours nominations
On the Queen's official birthday in June, and at the start of the New Year, a list of people receiving honours is published. To receive an Honour is not just a privilege for the recipient but recognition for the field in which they work.

IPEM has a procedure in place to work up a nomination once a suggestion has been made. The Honours Nomination Advisory Committee (HNAC) consists of seven members who have themselves received Honours. They have the expertise to draw up the nomination form but they need you to identify members whose work deserves recognition. The person nominated should have changed things, by solid, practical achievement and/or their work should have brought distinction to British life or enhanced the UK's reputation in their area or activity. Most importantly, their contribution should have been 'outstanding' – not just long service, or an excellent delivery of their 'day job', but something beyond the norm.

Our profession is one which changes people's lives and there are members who surely deserve this recognition for their work. To suggest names for the HNAC to consider, send them to marie@ipem.ac.uk, marked Confidential. Please note, that in line with Cabinet Office requirements, the nominee must not be informed about the nomination at any stage.

Workforce Intelligence Unit
IPEM is preparing a response to the Migratory Advisory Committee’s call for evidence on the economic and social impact of Brexit. It will particularly look at the impact of European Economic Area (EEA) workers in the UK labour market. The Institute wants to respond to this call with well-evidenced information regarding the number of EEA, and other overseas workers, in the medical physics workforce. No specific data on the medical physics and clinical engineering workforce is currently available. While the NHS Electronic Staff Record does collect data on nationality, there are significant shortcomings to using this data, most notably in that it only covers England and Wales and refers to the entire scientific, technical and therapeutic staff group and is not available for the medical physics and clinical engineering workforce alone.

We want to gather information from the healthcare provision workforce (both NHS and independent), academia and industry. Specific workforce data is sought from Heads of Department/Section and they have been sent a personal invitation to respond. Individual responses are requested as well and the survey can be accessed here. As with all our questionnaires, the data will be reported in accordance with the WIU’s policy on data sharing, which is available on request.
from Jemimah@ipem.ac.uk. No information identifying the respondent or any individual will be presented, nor will the information be used for any purpose other than assessing and predicting the impact of migration changes.

It is important, however, that the information provided is not anonymous as such data is less robust and subject to duplication. IPEM is committed to maintaining confidentiality and no information identifying the respondent or any individual would be presented without consent.

And finally...
Welcome to the new members of IPEM's Board of Trustees:

- Dr Susan Barley, Vice President Industry
- Keratloe Moyo, Honorary Secretary
- Dr Robert Farley, Director of the Professional and Standards Council
- Professor Bernard Conway, Member Trustee.

Robert Farley and Keratloe Moyo have also, together with Freda Amponsa Dadzie, agreed to be Network Mentors as part of IPEM’s Equality, Diversity and Inclusion commitment. More on this next month.

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