

5 October 2020

**PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
COUNCIL  
held on Thursday, 1 October 2020 at 3.00 pm  
via virtual meeting**

- Present:
- Mr David Hogan (Chair)
  - Mr Andrew Ball
  - Ms Kerrine Bryan
  - Professor Yue Chen
  - Mr John Cowburn
  - Dr Ozak Esu
  - Miss Anni Feng
  - Professor Danielle George (President)
  - Dr Edward He
  - Miss Justina Ho
  - Mr Bhagvat Joshi
  - Mr Ian MacGillivray
  - Eur Ing Dr Carol Marsh
  - Ms Orla Murphy
  - Dr C Muthamizhchelvan
  - Dr Ronjon Nag
  - Professor Ian Phillips
  - Mr Adam Pocock
  - Mr Graham Prebble
  - Mr Sam Presley
  - Colonel Andy Rogers
  - Miss Mamta Singhal
  - Dr David Smith
  - Dr Christopher To
- By invitation:
- Miss Yewande Akinola (Trustee)
  - Dr Colin Arthur (Trustee)
  - Dr Bicky Bhangu (Trustee)
  - Professor Bob Cryan (Trustee)
  - Mr Joe Dunn (Trustee)
  - Dr Andy Harter (Trustee)
  - Ms Rachel Hurst (Trustee)
  - Professor Paul Needham (Trustee)
  - Ms Dawn Ohlson (Trustee)
  - Professor Kate Sugden (Trustee)
  - Air Marshal Sir Julian Young (Trustee)
- In attendance:
- Ms Toni Allen (Director of International Strategic Marketing and Engagement)
  - Mr Richard Best (Director of IT and Digital Services)
  - Mr Simon Edwards (Director of Governance and External Engagement)
  - Mr Nigel Fine (Chief Executive and Secretary)
  - Mr Giles Grant (Director of Knowledge Services and Solutions)
  - Ms Eloisa de la Maza (Governance Executive)
  - Ms Michelle Richmond (Director of Membership and Professional Development)
  - Mr Andrew F Wilson (Head of Governance)

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr James Garnham and Dr Ejay Nsugbe.

## **2. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

## **3. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 June 2020 (CO(20)M2) were approved and signed as a correct record.

## **4. Actions Taken or Outstanding**

- 4.1. Council noted a report on actions taken or outstanding since the previous meeting of Council (CO(20)17).
- 4.2. Council noted the Council Annual Report for the Session 2019/20 (CO(20)18).
- 4.3. Council noted the report from Council submitted to the Board of Trustees in September 2020 (CO(20)19).

## **5. Council Constitution and Terms of Reference**

- 5.1. Council noted the constitution and terms of reference of Council (CO(20)20).
- 5.2. Council noted the outline of Council business for the Session 2020/21 (CO(20)21).  
(Staff note: A revised paper CO(20)21(revised) is circulated with these Minutes.)
- 5.3. Council noted the IET Strategic Framework (CO(20)22).
- 5.4. Council noted the Volunteer Handbook (Volunteer Handbook enclosed).

## **6. President**

- 6.1. Professor George (President) introduced herself to the meeting and talked about the themes for her Presidency during the Session 2020/21. She intended to use her year-long term of office to champion engineering difference makers in a bid to get more young people interested in engineering and technology and inspire them to solve engineering challenges.
- 6.2. She outlined the plans to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the IET throughout the Session, which included the #DifferenceMakers campaign to find those using engineering and technology solutions to solve a variety of global challenges across the world and to share those stories beyond the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths bubble, reaching new audiences globally.
- 6.3. She also described the arrangements for the President's Address which would be held as a virtual event on 8 October 2020.

## **7. Breakout Session**

- 7.1. Mr Hogan introduced a paper on the Council Breakout Session to discuss issues relating to the President's Themes for 2020/21 and the IET Strategy (CO(20)23).

7.2. Council then discussed on Yammer, in World Café style, the following questions:

- Working with Practitioners: What do we see as the cornerstone of excellence and professionalism in engineering and technology and how do we champion these and promote a diverse, inclusive and engaged profession?
- Partnering with Industry: What do we see as the basis of quality, efficiency and innovation in engineering and technology and then how to understand its needs and meet the demand for skilled professionals that have high professional and ethical standards to deliver safe and reliable solutions to society?
- Academic Community: How do we help the Academic Community to drive innovation and insight within engineering and technology to solve global challenges and facilitate the application of engineering and technology research to create sustainable impact as well as promoting high quality student and trainee learning?
- Society: How do we promote the contribution of engineering and technology to make a real difference to society and to encourage every child to think positively about engineering and have the opportunity to become an engineer?

7.3. A large number of comments were made at the meeting and on Yammer. It was agreed to continue the discussion on Yammer until 8 October 2020, to ensure that all relevant points were captured. Mr Hogan and Ms Feng would prepare a report on the discussion for submission to the Board of Trustees.

## **8. Main Boards**

- 8.1. Dr Bhangu gave a report on matters discussed by the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board. He drew attention to discussion of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on events and venues and the Knowledge Services and Solutions Strategy.
- 8.2. In the absence of Professor Blythe, Dr Arthur gave a report on matters discussed by the Membership and Professional Development Board. He drew attention to discussion of the Plan and Budget for 2021, plans for China and India, IET Education activities and a Professional Registration pilot to be conducted in Mandarin.
- 8.3. Ms Ohlson gave a report on matters discussed by the Volunteer Engagement Board. She drew attention to discussion of the Volunteer Engagement Strategy, proposed changes to the reporting line of the Young Professionals Community Committee, Societal Challenges and the Volunteer Conference to be held in October 2021.

## **9. Reports to Council**

- 9.1. Council received reports from the Committees and Working Parties that reported to Council.
- 9.2. A written report from the Council Agenda Team was noted (CO(20)24);
- 9.3. Dr To gave a brief oral report on the Monitoring Governance Working Party.

## **10. Report to the Board of Trustees**

It was agreed that the outcome from the World Café discussion should be reported to the Board of Trustees (Minute 7 above refers).

## **11. Feedback on Council Meeting**

Mr Hogan invited Council members to give feedback on the Council meeting and a number of members commented positively on the virtual Council meeting experience.

## **12. Dates of Next Meetings**

- 12.1. Tuesday, 12 January 2021 at 1.00 pm (GMT) (virtual meeting).
- 12.2. Thursday, 25 March 2021 at 3.00 pm (GMT), at Savoy Place, London WC2 (or a virtual meeting, if necessary).
- 12.3. Thursday, 10 June 2021 at 3.00 pm (BST), at Savoy Place, London WC2 (or a virtual meeting, if necessary).