

14 June 2021

PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
COUNCIL
held on Thursday, 10 June 2021 at 3.00 pm (BST)
via virtual meeting**

- Present: Mr David Hogan (Chair)
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 Ronjon Nag
Professor Ian Phillips
Mr Graham Prebble
Mr Sam Presley
Miss Mamta Singhal
Dr Christopher To
- By invitation: Dr Bicky Bhangu (Trustee)
Professor Phil Blythe (Trustee)
Professor Bob Cryan (Trustee)
Ms Rachel Hurst (Trustee)
Professor Paul Needham (Trustee)
Professor Kate Sugden (Trustee)
Air Marshal Sir Julian Young (Trustee)
- In attendance: Ms Toni Allen (Director of International Strategic Marketing and Engagement)
Mr Ed Almond (Director of Finance and Planning)
Mr Ed Beck (Strategic Planning Manager)
Mr Richard Best (Director of IT and Digital Services)
Ms Kelly Bishop (Strategic Planning Manager)
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)
Mr James Howe (International Operations Manager)
Ms Sara Killingworth (Head of Marketing)
Ms Eloisa de la Maza (Governance Executive)
Mr Ian Mercer (Head of International Operations)
Ms Michelle Richmond (Director of Membership and Professional Development)
Mr Shekhar Sanyal (Country Manager, India)
Mr Colin Sellers (Manager, Registration and Standards)

Mr Charlie Thomason (Strategic Analysis and Planning Executive)
Mr Andrew F Wilson (Head of Governance)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Andrew Ball, Dr Rafael Cepeda Lopez, Mr James Garnham, Dr C Muthamizhchelvan, Dr Ejay Nsugbe, Mr Adam Pocock, Colonel Andy Rogers and Dr David Smith.

2. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 March 2021 (CO(21)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(21)11).
- 4.2. The Chair drew attention to Foothold, the Benevolent Fund of the IET, and the services it provided to members and their dependents.

5. Mandatory Sign-up to Policies

The Chair introduced and Council noted a report on mandatory sign-up to policies (CO(21)12).

6. Matters for Approval

Council approved its proposals on Climate Change and the IET and agreed to recommend them to the Board of Trustees (CO(21)13).

7. President

The President spoke about recent IET activities including the IET 150 Show, presented on IET.tv in May 2021 and plans for Engineering Open House Day on 23 July 2021.

8. Monitoring Governance

- 8.1. Dr To introduced and Council noted a report from the Monitoring Governance Working Party on a possible review of the Council Regulations (CO(21)14). He commented that there had been six reviews since 2004, and so the matter had received frequent attention.
- 8.2. During discussion the following points were made:
 - 8.2.1. Mr Prebble commented that the current Regulations accurately summarised Council's current role.
 - 8.2.2. Mr MacGillivray asked whether there were records of how the proposals arising from previous governance reviews had been addressed. Mr Wilson undertook to provide Council with details of this information.

- 8.2.3. Professor Phillips asked whether the frequency of governance reviews was related to specific concerns and whether the periodic governance reviews had only addressed the Board of Trustees. Mr Wilson replied that the Board of Trustees had decided that it was good practice to commission external governance reviews at 3-4 year intervals, irrespective of whether there were any concerns about the existing structure. The reviews had addressed the top-level governance, including the Board of Trustees, Main Boards, Council, and those Committees that reported directly to the Board of Trustees.
- 8.2.4. Mr Edwards commented that Council had been closely involved in the previous governance reviews, including the most recent one in 2019. He drew attention to the plans to review the Bye-laws, with a view to identifying the requirements for future amendments, for which Council would also be consulted.
- 8.3. Following discussion it was agreed that Council should continue to monitor the effectiveness of the Council Regulations and to ask the Board of Trustees that Council should be consulted about both the next governance review and the planned review of the Bye-laws.

9. Breakout Session

- 9.1. Ms Allen and Mr Mercer introduced and Council noted a briefing on the current IET International Strategy and the IET's global activities and ambitions (CO(21)15).
- 9.2. Mr Hogan introduced the Council Breakout Session to discuss "The IET International Strategy: Where Now?".
- 9.3. Council then discussed on Yammer, in World Café style, the questions:
- Question 1 – Value of IET to a global audience.
 - Question 2 – Opportunities and areas for development.
 - Question 3 – Barriers to global ambition.
- 9.4. A large number of comments were made at the meeting and on Yammer. It was agreed to continue the discussion on Yammer until 24 June 2021, to ensure that all relevant points were captured. Mr Hogan and Dr Marsh would prepare a report on the discussion, for approval by Council and submission to the Board of Trustees.

10. Main Boards

- 10.1. Dr Bhangu gave a report on matters discussed by the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board. He drew attention to discussion of the impact of COVID-19 on operations and finances, planned cost-savings, Open Access journals, and the decision to transfer Communities from the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board to the Volunteer Engagement Board.
- 10.2. Professor Blythe gave a report on matters discussed by the Membership and Professional Development Board. He drew attention to discussion of the Membership and Registration pipeline, the Membership Recovery Action Plan, a survey of former members, and a proposal to amend the terms of reference of the Awards and Scholarships Panels.
- 10.3. In the absence of Ms Ohlson, Mr Edwards gave a report on matters discussed by the Volunteer Engagement Board. The Board had also discussed the decision to transfer Communities from the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board to the Volunteer Engagement Board, and the Volunteer Conference planned for October 2021.

11. Report to the Board of Trustees

11.1. It was agreed that the following matters should be reported to the Board of Trustees:

11.1.1. Proposals on Climate Change and the IET (Minute 6 above refers).

11.1.2. Comments on the next governance review and the planned review of the Bye-laws (Minute 8.3 above refers).

11.1.3. Proposals on the IET International Strategy (Minute 9.5 above refers).

12. Feedback on Council Meeting

Mr Hogan invited Council members to give feedback on the Council meeting.

13. Vote of Thanks

13.1. Council agreed to record a Vote of Thanks to those members who would retire from Council on 30 September 2021.

13.2. The President proposed a Vote of Thanks to Mr Hogan for chairing Council during the Session 2020/21.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 7 October 2021 at 3.00 pm (BST) (virtual meeting).