TRUSTEE BOARD ELECTION – 2020

Deputy President / President 2021-2022
David G Lynch CEng FIChemE

Executive Summary

As a member of the UK Board I am keenly aware of what the members value and want from the IChemE. I believe its future success depends on the role it plays involving the Chemical Engineering community in technology innovation and how it coordinates tackling the challenges of the day.

Biographical details

David is a Fellow of the IChemE, who for the last eight years has been the Global Head of Engineering and EHS for GlaxoSmithKline’s Global Manufacturing and Supply business. Responsible for the engineering activities of 3,500+ Engineers and Technicians across 70 sites.

After graduating from the University of Exeter in 1986 with a degree in Chemical Engineering, David joined PZ Cussons. Over the next 23 years he lived and worked in Asia, Australia, and Africa as well as the UK. At PZ Cussons he developed a strongly values based approach and used his engineering expertise to transform business performance. David’s approach had always been based on maximising the capability of the talent in an organisation. After taking roles as a Site, Manufacturing and Supply Chain Director, David became PZ’s Group Engineering Director. He joined Premier Foods as the Group Head of Engineering in 2010, where he worked for 18 months. At the time Premier Foods, with 40 sites in the UK, was the UKs largest food group with sales of £2.5B. David joined GlaxoSmithKline in 2011.

David has been a member of IChemE UK Board since 2016. He is married to Diane and they have two children.

Election statement

The IChemE centenary is an important opportunity to celebrate its achievements. It is also an opportunity to recognise the active role the IChemE will need to play in creating some of tomorrow’s transformational technologies and solving some of society’s greatest problems.

After more than 15 years as the Head of Engineering for some of the UK’s leading FMCG, Food and Pharmaceutical Companies, where the demand for innovation is ever-present, I realise that the future value of the Institution depends on it being both visible and relevant to the process of creating these new technologies and central to coordinating the response to these challenges.
This will be achieved by

- Continuing to work with Industry and Academia to equip the next generation of Chemical Engineers with the skills to deal with these challenges and new technologies.
- Demonstrating the relevance of the profession to these challenges, where research-based technical authority and professional judgement is required.
- Creating certified Professional Development programmes in new technology areas to facilitate in-career development and specialisation.

As a member of the IChemE UK Board since 2016, I bring a broad range of business skills, a wealth of experience and a strong track record of delivery.