

IChemE Teesside Branch Committee Meeting – TU 10th October 2022 Minutes

Present

Peter Dodd Sam Gooneratne

Apologies

Neville Blackwell Laurence Ashley Stephen Pallant Nick Howard

Adrian Northey Ralph Grob | Mark Wilson

Distribution to Committee including Joseph Fisher, Molly Bell, Emily McFazdean, Peter Hunt, Paul Dumain, Richard Maltby, Dmytro Stratiychuk-Dear, Faisal Mahmood, Andrea Pearson, Paul Frank and Ginette Kontcho.

Minutes had been circulated.

Matters arising – none.

Attendance. Whilst there was a select attendance, those that apologised seem to be surprised by the date. Peter accepted that the agenda could be earlier, but we lacked dates in diaries. Sam offered to send out meeting requests using Teams. *(Subsequently, we can only do this if we share email addresses. Teams needs to know which emails have the meeting requests. If you would like a meeting request, we need your permission to use your email address to do this.)* **Action All**

Financial report. – Nothing further. IChemE to respond to budget submission.

Events review

Chris Beck's slides were circulated to committee members.

Amy Stewart presented to the TU students as planned on 22 September. The presentation was relaxed with 11 attendees out of a possible 80 – 90. People had the opportunity. For the postgraduates, Olivia O'Callaghan is coming back on 7 December. Sam would also plan another student talk in the late afternoon to make best use of Olivia's visit. **Action Sam**

Events being planned.

- Alex Jones of ABB is coming to give a talk on the Management of Pressure Relief at 18:00 on Tuesday 25 October in H053, Centuria Building, TU. Alex will be joined by Chris Flower and Steven King of ABB.
- Safety case study on Area Classification- Faisal Mahmood. Faisal wanted this to be face to face and give students the opportunity to attend. Avoid Wednesdays. Faisal to choose date, set title and write abstract and bio. **Action Faisal**
- Plastic recycling - Ellis Marshall, Head of Recycling at TU has been contacted. Ellis believes this will be Q2 since the new Net Zero building opens in March.

Action Peter D

- CF – Given the uncertainty with the fertiliser industry and the notice given to staff while discussions with the Government, a talk is now unlikely. We had suggested carbon sequestration. **Action Sam**
- Mark Wilson has some contact with the Quorn business and will ask for a talk/visit. **Action Mark**
- ChemEng evolution. The Centenary. Paul Frank has agreed to talk on the evolution/history of Chem Eng. on Teesside area. He believes that this would be of interest to students too before the centenary ends. **Action Paul F**
- Nick offered a talk on Safety Engineering in the spring. **Action Nick**
- There are more forms to fill out to hold meetings. We need to be working with probably 8 weeks' notice. **Action PDs/FM//NH/SG**

Quiz. *Subsequent to the meeting, the Quiz date will go back into the new year due to Covid, work and family pressures. We look forward this the quiz when possible.* **Action Adrian**

Annual Dinner No further update. The date has been fixed for the next dinner on Thursday 9 March 2023. We need to progress.

As it's the IChemE Teesside committee centenary celebration this year, the committee thought it would be fitting to have an after-dinner speaker. Ben Houchen has been proposed; however, he can't always be guaranteed to attend the event, thus a secondary speaker may be useful. The subcommittee will meet soon. **Action Molly/Adrian**

Schools and University liaison The Teesside University Chem Eng courses started 50 years ago. TU were planning on a press release and were looking for a section from IChemE. Humbel Sulimann will make contact with the Chair. (This has been completed.)

AOB Nothing further.

Actions review

Neville's and other offers of doing **talks at TU** will roll over to the new academic year. This is really down to TU asking for speakers. **Action Sam**

The programme for **Chem Eng Evolution**, the Centenary. This has been very low key. There was a lack of awareness and little involvement. <http://www.chemengevolution.org/> **SharePoint** from IChemE will soon start. There has been an email for training. SharePoint is in use for some IChemE activities. This will allow Peter/Joe to upload distribution list and meeting notes. The event flowchart from Ralph will be uploaded when SharePoint is available along with the Event Organising Spreadsheet. **Action Peter D**

Another attempt to make positive contact with the **Tyneside and Humberside** branches has been done through Member Groups. **Action Peter D**

Brewery tour – There are dates available. Tickets are £20 which includes 3 free pints. We felt that encouraging drinking 3 pints might not be advisable and we need to enquire about other cheaper alternatives. **Action Peter D**

Survey IChemE took a while to get the AGM and talk details out and the survey was not sent with the invitations. What do we do with the survey now? **Action Peter D**

Opportunities for growth We continued to discuss where new Chem Eng graduates were going because there was still a good number graduating but they don't seem to be appearing in the process industries.

Middlesbrough College invested in a pilot plant to train technicians. It is believed that industry did not ask for much training and the pilot plant is idle. The National Horizons Centre, part of TU was set up at Darlington to also provide training resources such as videos. We wondered what was happening to these local resources that seem underused.

Neville had seen that the total **IChemE membership** had fallen from 45,000 to 30,000 over 6 years. What was happening? Peter reported that the number of students is well down as the Institution felt it was out of balance across the grades. IMechE give free memberships to get students in but IChemE charges. Is this a factor? The number of students entering Chem Eng courses is also declining. More will follow.

Bring it on are planning this year's event at the Stadium of Light, Sunderland on 12 and 13 October. We previously agreed our usual sponsorship of £250. This is for senior school pupils to experience practical engineering. Adrian is intending to have a table to talk on Chem Eng. Neville was interested. **Action Adrian**

6 Engineering had grown significantly. Nick asked if anyone knew of the Company Accredited routes to membership. We did not but he would enquire, and Peter D would then pick this up, if necessary.

Date of next committee meeting. Monday 14 November online at 5:30 pm

PWD 3 November 22

25 October at 18:00, H053 Centuria, TU	Management of Pressure Relief talk	Registering now.
7 December at 18:00	Getting chartered	Getting publicity out.
New year	Annual Quiz	To be fixed
9 March at Judges	Annual Dinner	Date fixed and booked