

## **Engineering Professors Council**

**2011-12**

### **Aims of the EPC**

The Engineering Professors' Council (EPC) exists to promote excellence in engineering in higher education. It provides a unique forum for senior academics responsible for engineering teaching and research in higher education.

### **Objectives**

To make the excellence in engineering higher education more widely known by:

- enthusing young people to study engineering
- working with others to promote engineering nationally and internationally
- encouraging the development and sharing of best practice in the promotion of engineering among members

To enable engineering higher education to excel in research by:

- providing information relevant to the needs of departments
- informing and influence the REF process on engineering matters
- enhancing the flow of qualified research workers

To enable engineering higher education to excel in learning, teaching and assessment by:

- identifying and promulgating LT&A best practice in the UK and internationally, including student learning, and promoting good novel methods for LT&A
- sharing best practice in quality assurance
- advising government, schools and other stakeholders on educational needs, qualifications and skills required for entry into engineering higher education
- influencing professional bodies' accreditation processes

To secure adequate resources for engineering higher education by:

- increasing visibility relating to resource issues by contact with appropriate organizations (e.g. professional bodies, RAEng, QAA, Universities UK, government, funding councils, EPSRC, industry, university management)
- ensuring adequate recruitment, retention and development of academic and research staff
- encouraging best practice in resource management
- convincing university senior management of the value of engineering to higher education

### **Organisation of EPC**

It is led by a committee, representative of all types of university and all engineering disciplines, and supported by an Executive and Research Office. There are currently over 1700 members in nearly 90 universities and university institutions. There is a representative in each member university.

All branches of engineering are represented within the membership including Aeronautical, Civil, Chemical, Electrical, Electronic, Manufacturing, Mechanical, Minerals, Metallurgy and Marine Engineering, and the broad areas of General Engineering and those in which engineering is combined with a range of other topics. In some universities, frequently those where computing forms part of an Engineering School or Faculty, professors of Computer Science are also members.

Up to May 2009, EPC was constituted as a 'Club' or 'Society'. This placed some limitations on the activities, e.g. no access to credit card facilities, and also meant that should there ever be a liability then this rested with all the individual 'Club' members, i.e. all the universities, etc.. For these reasons, and to put the management on a more formal business basis, the EPC became a non-profit 'Company Limited by Guarantee'. Liability now rests with the four Directors – the President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. In operational terms the EPC activities are as they always were but EPC is now bound by company law in its administration.

### **Activities**

The EPC holds two main meetings regularly. The Annual Congress, held in one of the member universities, usually in the Easter vacation, is open to all members and a number of invited guests. At the Congress speakers from a range of organisations in education, industry and government address the professoriate on matters of current interest. The Policy Forum, usually held bi-annually, is restricted to EPC Representatives from the universities, focuses on the EPC's own activities and initiatives and advises the Committee on the Council's future direction.

### **The Committee**

The committee consists of 5 honorary officers and 7 elected members. Convenors of the three universities which have hosted, or are about to host, the Annual Congresses are also members.

The Chairs of the Engineering Sectoral Groups are co-opted if they are not already elected members of the Committee. The Committee is supported by an Executive/Research Unit and members of this also attend Committee meetings.

### **Sectoral Groups**

Aerospace Engineering	<a href="#"><u>Association of Aerospace Universities</u></a>
Biomedical Engineering	
Civil Engineering	<a href="#"><u>Association of Civil Engineering Departments</u></a>
Computing	<a href="#"><u>The Council of Heads and Professors of Computing</u></a>
Electrical & Electronic Engineering	<a href="#"><u>Professors and Heads of Electrical Engineering</u></a>
Mechanical Engineering	PHOMME
Manufacturing Engineering	<a href="#"><u>COMEH: The Consortium of UK University Manufacturing and Engineering</u></a>

## Appendix 1

### EPC Committee Members for 2011/12

President	<u>Professor Helen Atkinson</u>	Leicester University
Past President	<u>Professor Barry Clarke</u>	University of Leeds
Honorary Secretary	<u>Professor David Harrison</u>	Glasgow Caledonian University
Honorary Treasurer	<u>Professor Jim Yip</u>	University of Salford
Elected Members	<u>Professor Kamel Hawwash</u>	University of Birmingham
	<u>Professor Jonathan Cooper</u>	University of Bristol
	<u>Professor Rob Krams</u>	Imperial College
	<u>Professor John Davies</u>	Glasgow University
	<u>Professor Simon Hodgson</u>	University of Teesside
	<u>Dr Geoff Parks</u>	Cambridge University
	<u>Professor Peter White</u>	Coventry University
Co-opted Members	<u>Professor Bill Banks</u>	Strathclyde University
	<u>Professor Fred Maillardet</u>	University of Brighton
	<u>Professor Tony Unsworth</u>	Durham University
	<u>Professor Tony Brown</u>	Manchester University
	<u>Professor Ray Allen</u>	University of Sheffield
Annual Congress Convenors	<u>Professor Rob Best</u>	London South Bank University
	<u>Professor Helen Atkinson</u>	Leicester University
	<u>Professor Djamel Ait-Boudaoud</u>	Portsmouth University
Working Group Chairs	<u>Professor Denise Bower</u>	Leeds University
	<u>Professor Dik Morling</u>	Westminster University
	<u>Professor Clive Neal-Sturgess</u>	University of Birmingham
	<u>Professor Fred Maillardet</u>	University of Brighton
Sectoral Group Chairs	<u>Professor Linda Newnes</u>	University of Bath
	<u>Professor Clive Neal-Sturgess</u>	University of Birmingham
	<u>Professor Steph Haywood</u>	University of Hull
	<u>Professor Bob Lark</u>	Cardiff University
	<u>Professor Jim Yip</u>	University of Salford

	<u>Professor Rob Krams</u>	Imperial College
EPC Office	<u>Mrs Fiona Martland</u>	Director
	<u>Mrs Vicky Elston</u>	Administrative Manager
	<u>Dr Piers Baker</u>	Assistant Director
Observer	<a href="#"><u>Dr Simon Steiner</u></a>	Higher Education Academy

## Appendix 2

### EPC Working Group Chairs for 2011/12

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Name of Chair</b>	<b>Contact Email</b>
Admissions	Professor Dik Morling	R.C.S.Morling@westminster.ac.uk
Designing the Future	Professor Denise Bower	d.a.bower@leeds.ac.uk
International	Professor Clive Neal-Sturgess	C.E.N.Sturgess@bham.ac.uk
Mathematics	Professor Fred Maillardet	F.J.Maillardet@brighton.ac.uk
Education (virtual group)	Professor Barry Clarke	B.G.Clarke@leeds.ac.uk
Research (virtual group)	Professor Stephanie Haywood	S.K.Haywood@hull.ac.uk