

# THE SCI'S SCIENCE & ENTERPRISE GROUP 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 9 December 2010

# HONORARY SECRETARY'S/ CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

"The Science and Enterprise Group (SEG) aims to mobilise wide and diverse expertise to develop a unique cross-disciplinary and cross-sector network to forge new links to accelerate innovation: the successful exploitation of new ideas. SEG will spearhead the delivery of SCI's promise to be where science meets business."

### http://www.soci.org/Membership-and-Networks/Technical-Groups/Science-and-Enterprise-Group

We want to provide leadership within the SCI so that the society may become more relevant to the world we find today, encompassing all stakeholders, from universities, technologists and entrepreneurs, businesses engaged in technology driven markets, financiers, government and society in general.

It is my pleasure to be able to present to the AGM of the Science & Enterprise Group a summary of our activities between 4 December 2009 and 9 December 2010. Note this is our first full year of activity following our launch in January 2009.

The current officers are:-

Chairman:	Rob Andrew
Hon. Secretary:	Richard Bahu
Hon. Treasurer:	Simon Conway
Communications Officer	Alan Baylis
Programme Coordinator	Peter Reineck

Sadly, Alan Baylis is stepping down as Communications Officer due to his other extensive commitments in SCI. He will remain as a co-opted committee member, so we will continue to benefit from his invaluable contributions in the future development of SEG. We are therefore seeking nominations for this key post. Peter Reineck has highlighted that the Yorkshire & the Humberside RIG has just engaged a third communications coordinator who like the others is a third year chemistry student with a strong interest in journalism. In this way they have generated reports of events and features for C&I, etc. It has been suggested that a London college might come up with such an individual. We would welcome any such individual coming forward or being nominated.

Other officers have indicated their willingness to continue in their current roles for the next year.

#### Society of Chemical Industry

#### www.soci.org

SCI founded in London 1881 and in New York 1894 Incorporated by Royal Charter 1907, Registered as UK Charity 206883 Recognised as a not for profit organisation across the world

#### **Confirmed Focus Area Leaders:**

Transportation	Richard Bahu
Packaging	Peter Reineck (BioResources and Yorkshire & the Humberside RIG)
Renewable Resources	Alan Baylis (BioResources TIG and AgriFood Hub)
Chemical Industry	Richard Bahu
Processing	Carlos Harrison (Process Engineering TIG)
Horticulture	Peter Grimbly (Horticulture TIG)
Water	Clive Thompson (Environment TIG)
Innovation Process	Simon Conway
Textiles & Fibres	Derek Heywood.

# Vacant Focus Area Leaders:

Energy Consumer Products Health & Nutrition Printed Electronics Smart Materials

### Co-opted Members of the Committee are:

Raglan Tribe, Tony Bennett, Bernard Carey, Patrick Kitt, Christopher Drew, Thomas Moore and Mike Pitts. Additions during year: Peter Moores and Kirsty Hewitson.

SEG was very ably supported by Ms Erin Taylor from SCI during the first half of the year. We acknowledge her exemplary service to the committee. She was replaced by Ms Jacqui Colgate and we look forward to working closely with her in the coming year.

# **Group Statistics**

The Group statistics below were taken from the SCI database on 1 August 2010.

#### Total Members 283

#### **Type of Membership**

**131** Ordinary Members; **9** Life; **70** Students; **16** Concessionary; **25** Academic Members; **32** Corporate Members;

#### Gender

191 Male/ 75 Female 19 Unknown

# Age range (215 members)

**24%** 36-45; **22%** 46-55; **20%** 26-35; **19%** 56-65; **8%** under 25; **4%** over 70; **3%** 66-70

### Groups that members are also members of

- 1. Fine Chemicals (35%)
- 2. Biotechnology (26%)
- 3. Materials Chemistry (21%)
- 4. Environment (14%)
- 5. Young Chemists panel (18%)

# Top 4 Companies/Organisations members are from

- 1. GlaxoSmithKline
- 2. AstraZeneca

- 3. University of Sheffield
- 4. University of Birmingham

Engagement of, and participation of, TIGs is seen as critical and significant effort has been made to communicate with TIGs on the significant value to them of SEG activities. In advance of each event, opportunities for TIGs are highlighted and pathways to encourage attendance are devised. The Chairman attended the Members' Forum in November 2009. The Chairman emailed all TIGs and RIGs on 26 Feb regarding sharing of programme activity and ongoing collaboration. and Alan Baylis had discussions with leaders of a number of the TIGs, including Colloids & Surface Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Separation Science & Technology, Health and Safety and Bioresources. There was much interest in sustaining good lines of communication, sharing of best practice and exploiting ideas, events and intelligence for mutual value.

The Chairman attended the SCI Committees training day on 28 September 2009 and notes have been circulated to core committee members.

### **Committee Meetings and Events**

The fourth committee meeting was held on 4 December 2009. The fifth committee meeting was held on 3 March 2010 and the sixth was on 9 September 2010. At the latter, Ms Joanne Lyll, the new Executive Director of SCI, described her vision for SCI and gave her support for the work of SEG. The Chairman would like to acknowledge the enthusiasm of the committee and particularly, the focus area leaders who are critical to the success of SEG events.

2011 Committee Meeting Schedule:

2 March @ SCI 8 June @ SCI 8 Sept @: SCI 9 Dec @ SCI with AGM & potentially an addition event.

Brief details of all meetings organised are as follows.

**The Marriage of Money & Ideas 22 January 2010**. The event was cancelled due to lack of registrations. Decision to repackage as regional events with local partners.

Biorenewable Fuel And Fertilizer 24 March 2010 - Joint with Fera and Environment TIG.

**The Water Framework Directive 25 March 2010**– Sponsored by ACS with two partners, SDC and OCA, and Environment TIG.

**Market Inspired Innovation 20 May 2010 -** Joint with MIndsheet. Other stakeholders were OCCA, ACS, SDC and Thames & Kennet RIG. Mindsheet used viral marketing to promote the event.

Water: The New Gold 9 June 2010 - The event was cancelled due to lack of registrations and collaboration issues with partners. Joint with SDC and OCCA.

Restrictions on SCI event budget approvals and organisational issues meant that no events could take place in the second half of 2010.

Planning of future meetings:

Peter Reineck maintains a comprehensive events list. The latest version can be found in the Group's SCI online download area.

There was significant concern during the year about the marketing and selling of events by SCI due to a lack of internal resources. Future SEG event budgets should include sufficient funds for employing external marketing and sales support eg telesales.

We are particularly interested in securing engagement from committed partners within the TIGS who are looking to running events with a business element as SEG Focus Area Leaders - be it from an innovation, market, process, growth or wealth creation perspective.

2011 has been designated "The International Year of Chemistry" (IYC). SEG has agreed to organise a flagship event for SCI as its major contribution to IYC entitled "Innovation to Transform the Chemical Industry". A key thread running through the event will be sustainability in all its dimensions. This event is scheduled for the third quarter of 2011 and SCI is keen to partner with other key organisations in the UK such as RSC, ICHEME, CIA and CIKTN.

### Communications

SEG produced hardcopy and electronic event flyers plus e-alerts for all events. Regular articles appeared in Members' News and one Contribution to C&I. There was ongoing concern about the disconnect between C&I and SEG / SCI activities. It was recognised that greater efforts need to be made to ensure that SEG provides C&I with interesting articles SEG's web pages were regularly updated.

*Richard Bahu* Honorary Secretary