
Annual General Meeting 2024

**Record of the Annual General Meeting of The Institute of Physics (IOP)
held at 16:00 on 18 September 2024
at 37 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU and by Zoom Meeting.**

Quorum and welcome

A quorum being present, the President, Professor Sir Keith Burnett CBE, took the chair and welcomed members present to the Annual General Meeting. The Notice of the Meeting had been sent to all members and was taken as read.

Record of previous meeting

The President advised the meeting that the record of the Annual General Meeting held on 28 September 2023 had been approved by Council. It had been published to all members and was duly noted.

Elections to Council

Following a members' ballot, the President reported that the following had been elected to serve on Council as trustees of the IOP:

- Professor Robert Lamb as Vice-President for Business;
- Dr Judith Hillier as Vice-President for Learning and Skills; and
- Dr Rebecca Dewey and Paula Knee as General Trustees.

All shall serve for four years from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2028.

It was also reported that, subject to approval by Council, Dr Dermot Green, as the most recent Chair of the IOP Ireland Committee would be appointed as a Co-opted Trustee in recognition of the IOP's role as the National Physical Society for Ireland.

Voting had been validated by the IOP trustee scrutineers, Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright OBE and Rosalie Benjamin.

Retiring members of Council

On behalf of Council and all members of the IOP, the President thanked the following trustees who were all retiring from Council and as trustees on 30 September 2024:

- Dr John Bagshaw as Vice-President for Business;
- Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright OBC as Vice-President for Education and Skills;
- Professor Claudia Eberlein and Professor Sir John Roy Sambles as General Trustee; and
- Dr Yvonne Kavanagh as Co-opted Trustee to represent Ireland.

The President thanked all the retiring members for their time and support given to the IOP.

Resolutions

The meeting then moved to the consideration of the formal resolutions set out in the Notice of AGM.

Resolution 1 - Re-appointment of Auditor

On behalf of Council, the Honorary Treasurer, Professor David Delpy, proposed the following resolution:

'That PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP be re-appointed as the auditor of the Institute of Physics to hold office until the conclusion of the AGM in 2025 and that its remuneration be determined by Council or, where authorised by Council, by the Audit & Risk Committee.'

The motion was duly seconded.

There were no questions on the resolution.

Resolution 2 – Membership Subscription and Professional Registration Fees for 2024

On behalf of Council, the President proposed the following resolution:

'That the membership subscription and professional registration fees from 1 January 2025 shall be as follows:

Membership Category	2024	2025	Change
Honorary Fellow	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fellow	£157.00	£164.00	£7.00
Fellow concession*	£47.00	£49.00	£2.00
Member	£126.00	£131.00	£5.00
Member concession*	£38.00	£39.00	£1.00
Associate Member	£113.00	£118.00	£5.00
Associate Member concession*	£34.00	£35.00	£1.00
Associate Member: Undergraduates, Apprentices and Trainees	£15.00	£15.00	No change

*To be eligible for the concessionary rate, a member must be earning less than £25,000 per annum or must be retired, employed part-time, undertaking postgraduate study, on a career break, on maternity leave, unemployed, or unable to work due to long-term illness.

Professional Registration	2024	2025	Change
Chartered Physicist	£33.00	£34.00	£1.00

The following matters were set out in the resolution for note:

- The above membership fees represent an increase of 3.8% to the Member full rate fee (to reflect the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) for March 2024), rounded to the nearest pound. The fees for Fellow and Associate Member are set as a proportion of the Member rate, i.e. 125% and 90%, respectively. Concessions are 30% of the full rate fee for each membership category. All are rounded to the nearest pound.
- The Chartered Physicist professional registration fee is increased by 3.8% (to reflect the CPIH for March 2024), then rounded to the nearest pound.

- The low earnings threshold is increased by £2,000 to £25,000 in line with the London Living Wage for 2023-24.
- To encourage uptake, the IOP does not add any additional annual charges to the externally set professional registration fees from Engineering UK or the Science Council, with the exception of Chartered Engineer and Chartered Scientist, where additional fees are charged to cover the administrative costs of the application process, but these are not proposed to be increased for 2025.

The motion was duly seconded.

In response to a question regarding voting, it was confirmed that each member was assigned a unique code which would only allow them to vote once.

Voting instructions were provided and members attending online and in person were then able to vote on both resolutions.

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2023

Following the presentation of a video showcasing work IOP had undertaken over the last twelve months, the Honorary Secretary, Professor Alison McMillan, gave a presentation of the highlights of IOP's activities in 2023 and presented to members the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2023.

The Honorary Treasurer, Professor David Delpy, then gave a presentation on the IOP's financial position and presented to members the Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023.

In response to questions about the Accounts, it was noted that:

- The one employee with the highest compensation was the Chief Executive of IOP Publishing Limited. Like the charity, executive compensation for the publishing subsidiary was reviewed by the Remuneration Committee and was reflective of the highly competitive and commercial environment the publishing arm operated in.
- The IOP's income from publishing was £15.3m and total income £21.3m. As part of the new strategy, IOP would look for more ways to diversify its income through venue-marketing, corporates, donations and legacies. While designated funds obtained through donations and legacies were important, they were earmarked for a particular purpose. IOP would therefore also look to increase its income from unrestricted funds which offered more flexibility and enabled spend in charitable activities and programmes where the need was greatest.

Results of Voting

Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright OBE, on behalf of the scrutineers, Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright, Jane Weir and Rosalie Benjamin, announced the results of the advanced and in-meeting voting on the two AGM resolutions, as follows:

Resolution 1 - Re-appointment of Auditor

Votes cast were 676 (95.3%) in favour and 33 (4.7%) against.

Resolution 2 – Membership Subscription and Professional Registration Fees for 2024

Votes cast were 623 (87.9%) in favour and 86 (12.1%) against.

Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright, on behalf of the scrutineers, confirmed that the votes had been scrutinised and validated.

The President accordingly declared both motions carried with the necessary simple majorities.

Questions

The meeting was then opened to questions from members. Responses were provided to the questions submitted in advance and in-meeting, the details of which are as follows:

- **Although it was encouraging to see the IOP focusing on getting girls into Physics, it was concerning that white working class and middle-class boys were being ignored to the profession's detriment. How would IOP fix this as well as tackle the lack of support from schools?**

Evidence IOP had gathered showed that the take-up of physics remained high for boys (in general) and was the second most popular subject, however there was still an issue for those from working class families. IOP had therefore been making the case to the last government, and the new one, to recruit 3,500 more physics teachers and to make sure that bursaries for teachers working in economically deprived areas were continued. In addition, as part of IOP's commitment to improve access to physics education for all young people, teacher-training scholarships on behalf of the Department for Education were being offered to increase the recruitment of specialist physics teachers. Also, in addition to careers support and resources offered through initiatives like Limitless, IOP's levelling up support programme was focused on preparing all sixth form students, including boys, for studying physics at university.

- **Did IOP members have support and help to publish books or papers through IOP Publishing, particularly if they had a PhD in physics?**

IOP Publishing actively encouraged IOP members to publish in its journals and to consider being book authors, although it was recognised that more could be done to strengthen this. As such IOP Publishing were increasingly looking at how to work more closely with IOP to promote opportunities for members to publish. An example being the opportunity for members to get a 25% discount on Article Publishing Charges when publishing open access in IOP journals (applicable in situations where the publishing fee was not already covered by a transformative agreement).

- **How could opportunities for interaction with Indian IOP Members be strengthened?**

IOP, as part of the new strategy, would work more collaboratively with IOP Publishing to strengthen engagement from international members. IOP Publishing were aware that by the end of the decade one of the largest areas of article growth would be from India and were making significant investments into being able to better attract and serve Indian researchers and their institutions in the future.

- **How was IOP celebrating Black History Month this year?**

IOP had been invited to celebrate Black History Month with the Royal Academy of Engineering this year. As it was important to support black physicists across the year, IOP worked closely with organisations like the Blakett Lab. Internally as well, IOP increased staff awareness of EDI activities throughout the year, and specific activities led by IOP's multicultural staff network had been planned to promote Black History Month.

Close of Meeting

As there was no other business, the President thanked all attendees and closed the meeting at 17.00.