

# IChemE EdSIG meeting minutes

11<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 8.30am (UK time)

1. Guest Presentation
  - a. **Title:** Future Proofing: Changes and Challenges for Chemical Engineering Education
  - b. **Presenter:** David Brown (Honorary Professor at Aston University, former CEO of IChemE)
  - c. **Key themes and ideas:**
    - Promoting digitalisation in education
    - Ethics in digitalisation
    - Maintain basic principles, but apply everywhere
    - Aim to promote multidisciplinary projects and collaborations across various geographies (e.g., design projects)
    - Improve career readiness by providing transferable skills in communication, problem solving, digital skills, etc.
    - Help with using and identifying connections better
    - Could generate apprenticeships/jobs
2. EdSIG Annual Meeting - Annual activities summary (2024)
  - a. **Presenter:** Michaela Pollock (Chair, EdSIG)
  - b. **Summary of activities:**
    - 5 monthly newsletters
      - Organised by Sze-Pheng Ong (EdSIG newsletter editor)
    - 5 webinars themed around GenAI, Morton and Hanson medal winners and future proofing Chemical Engineering Education
      - Organised by Maryam Mohammed Zadeh (EdSIG webinar co-ordinator)
    - 6 workshops
      - 2 in UK themed around Sustainability and Industrial practises
      - 3 in Malaysia themed around Virtual Reality, Immersive Learning and Process Simulation
      - 1 in Australia themed around AI in education and research
  - c. Learned Society (LS)
    - Attended quarterly Learned Society Forum meetings and presented on Engagement & Inclusion in committees and activities in Spring 2024 meeting
    - Active in supporting LS themes of Digitalisation, Responsible Production, Major Hazards and Education
      - Guest presentation by James Sweeney
      - Achieved EdSIG representative member allocation of DigiCom and re-starting of Hazards sub-group
  - d. EdSIG Demographics
    - Membership relatively stagnant (551 EdSIG members in 2024)
    - 57% of members based in Europe (95% from UK, 20% based in Asia, 10% Aus & NZ)
    - Nearly 40% of members are Associate Members, with around 20% Chartered and Fellow Members respectively and nearly 10% student members
    - Membership split across all age ranges
  - e. EdSIG committee

- Committee demographics
  - 54% female, 46% male
  - 83% academic, 8% student
  - 63% from UK, 21% from Southeast Asia and 13% Australia & New Zealand
- Student committee with Vivien Thurner and Ryan Oatley met with Jo Cox, Head of Young People's & Student Engagement at IChemE to consider projects to widen student engagement
- Wenqian Chen and Brent Young standing down – thank you for your contributions
- Vote of thanks to all EdSIG committee members, past and present and everyone who has helped organise events, webinars, articles & other activities
- f. Budgets
  - Costs relate to workshops with aim to cover catering, venue hire, student presenter costs and reasonable speaker costs from delegate fees
  - Student presenter costs for ChemEngDayUK kindly covered by Imperial College London (host)
- g. IChemE Connect
  - 35% EdSIG members belong to EdSIG community space
  - 80% committee members belong to EdSIG committee community space
  - Further signup encouraged (signup link [here](#))
- h. Plans for 2025
  - IChemE SIG administration approach changed
  - Budget submissions, and likewise treasury role, no longer required and submission of annual plan of activities mandatory
  - EdSIG Annual Plan 2025 submitted with aims of:
    - 4 committee meetings
    - Annual Meeting in Dec
    - 3 in-person events in UK (ChemEngDayUK), Malaysia and Australia (Chemeca)
    - 6 newsletters
  - To support innovation, each SIG and MG allocated £2000
  - Future activities (2025)
    - ChemEngDay UK (Sheffield) – presentations & panel discussion on digitalisation and the use of AI tools in education, encourage abstract submissions on digitalisation and general education themes (deadline 15 Jan 2025, abstract submission link included [here](#))
    - Online EdSIG Digitalisation Symposium in June/July – themes around digital innovations in teaching & learning, AI, future skills
    - Look out for further communications about these events