KCLEA Committee Meeting Minutes 3 November 2025 by Zoom

The meeting started at 6pm

The following were present

Peter Weitzel President
John Thomson Hon Treasurer
Liz Beckmann Past President
David Blacoe Vice President
Dr Ernest Okon Student Activities

Thus the meeting was quorate

1. Apologies - Chris Bowden Vice President
2. Minutes of last meeting* (10 Sept) and matters arising
   These were accepted as a accurate record and there were no matters arising not covered elsewhere

3. Note (V briefly) matters on Hon sec and Finance (other report later)
   Peter Weitzel said that he had Received the resignation of Stylii Charalampous Hon Sec – who has not had good health and whose work load has increased – and eh cannot reliably devote time to KCLEA activities> Peter said how much he regretted this as he had had many Conversations with Stylii which have helped shape how he is approaching what KCLEA should be doing and how it should operate. We need to find a Hon secretary
   John had nothing exceptional to report on the finances – he had received and paid for the Media t be engraved. David said he had delivered them to Prof Oleg Aslanidi the at the FOAK event previous Wednesday.

4. Confirm the AGM agenda –
   We noted that the Agenda had been posted of the website , Peter said that any update would be posted by the weekend https://www.kclea.org.uk/events/agm2025.html
   he said that there was a newsletter calling the meetings to go out week of 10 November thus in more than a fortnight before the for the meeting
   1) Apologies for absence/ Minutes of the 2024 AGM/ Matters arising
      Minutes are on the website
   2) President's report on past year
      Peter Weitzel Hopes to have the report on the Website –

   3) Accounts, including the Trustees' report.
      John Thomson said that the current accounts were al prepared to be "audited" – but Mike Clode was having problems with The college over the valuation of the Bursary account and thus the full accounts were not ready. Peter Weitzel said that he would contact Mike to see if he could add weight t getting the college to tell us the figures. (done – he email Claire Cudby 6/7 November ) He also noted that he does not want a long discussion from the trustees at the AGM.

4) To Note Student Bursaries and Medals  David Blacoe reported that  The College has the medals to hand over    and that there were 8 or 9 Entries for the bursaries and he would issue them to the committee for them to marks them – with a meeting to decide the awarding around 19 November.

5) Special Resolutions  There will be a composite motion  to amend the constitution see later
6) Nominations and Election for Officers and Committee members Some have been received and invitation accepted -see later

7) The 13 Club Trophy  see later

8) Brief comments and AOB

5. Constitutional Changes
The meeting first considered the Informatics question – Although Informaticss does have a Software Engineering degree title it was felt that there was no overwhelming need to encompass them. This feeling  was reinforced by the fact that Engineering in Kings across both FoLSM  &  NMES is being expanded and thus we should wait until the precise plans become clearer – which as BMEIS has a large AI presence  (And AI is everywhere – and reducing need for Programmers/Coders) and thus where/if Informatics  fits in may change.
**It was decided not to proceed with accepting Informatics Graduates at this time.**

The Portfolio/ Executive reorganisation.
Peter Weitzel introduced the paper  describing the proposed changes which fall into two areas  - Governance - Removing KCLES representation  on the committee –  so that KCLEA was governed only by its members – and also to clearly define the Vice president as Non-executive – thus heading towards Cadbury compliance which is best practise
He also noted that KCLES has not been a Departmental society for well over 10 years – and there are other Related student societies which KCLEA has  relationship with Like WiSTEM, KCL Electronics an KCL Tech as well as KCLES.
**These changes were agreed**
On the more significant changes Peter said that The main Portfolios – MARCOMS, Events , Membership and Activities had been established very early in his review of how KCLEA should operate- but the Liaison role had rather grown over the time. Each of these Executive role needed to be supported by Leadership roles one or two of which could be done by the executive – But in any case having had t do almost all of them each one is fairly full on – and thus we needed reliable and capable  members in these roles. The existing constitution was rather strange in that it proscribed  the things that and Officer should do usually involving multi  Officers and making receptibilities rather muddled.(e.eg does Event Sec or Hon Sec  publicise an Event????)
From having t do every Role all at once  he  could see that there was a  lot of cross portfolio support  needed -  but the proposal clearly states what the Executive would do – and did not proscribe  how it was  t be done.  There  was a  brief discussion around these points and how this was making KCLEA more business like.

It was pointed out that the committee was still the same size after these changes
**And it was agreed that the amendments should be put to the membership**.
Peter Said he would tidy up the Documents to remove the hints t the committee etc and generally make it tighter and post in on the website
**It was agreed that it should be taken as a Composite motion**

6. Nominations
   Having decided the likely committee structure –
   Peter Weitzel said he has invited Dr John Zubryski ("John Z") who regularly attend our Events to be nominated as an ordinary member and he has accepted. The biomed PhD Students we met on Wednesday have been invited to decide if one of them would be an ordinary member. But that leaves a vast hole for the Executives and Hon sec- He will start approaching some likely contact – but suggestions from Keith list of "40 year olds" was still needed. There was more discussion later
7. 13 Club Trophy – David Blacoe noted the suggestions but will progress this off line

8. Decide if KCLEA should be wound up
   There was a brief discussion which concluded that there was enough action put in place to recruit a new committee that would be able t function – all be it perhaps not with all vacancies filled , **so that KCLEA could continue .**

   Liz Beckmann left the meeting (after just over an hour)

9. Note matters Marcom's/Events/ Membership/ Activities/ Liaison * with emphasis on President report

   There was mention of the success of the Lectures and the Lunch – and a few reflections on what Profs Rhode and Aslanidi had said at the FOAK event about BMEIS and the growth of Engineering . The conversation reverted to matters of membership and that fact that we do not know who our members are from the AO list – we do know who some of our members are from Keith work with Linked in (but they are not in the Group or Following) and now from Kings Connect – which has useful search tools but probably a smaller list (but very much younger skewed) It was noted that the AO list and Kings connect run by the AO are two separate databases!! There was discussion about systems was needed – Peter said it needs to be a CRM like Salesforce – David Blacoe said that if we required it we should look at paying for advice and or to get the data input as it was important that we know our members.
   This was a key matter for the new committee -
   ( Peter will attach with these minutes some note that he has made over the years about these matters )

10. AOB In the light f the above discussion there was none
    **he meeting closed at 7;30pm**

PMW 5 nov