

EPSRC Early Career Forum in Manufacturing Research



Newsletter Summer 2016

Foreword

Welcome to the first EPSRC ECF in Manufacturing Research Newsletter. I would like to thank EPSRC Rebecca Williams and the EPSRC graphic team for help to bring this newsletter to you as well as all the contributors to this first edition. We will publish this newsletter after each meeting.

On the 14th and 15th of May 2016, the ECF in Manufacturing research has held its 12th workshop since its creation in 2012. The meeting was hosted by Ioannis Papakonstantinou at UCL, and chaired by Elliot Woolley (Loughborough University). Several members of the ECF first generation were attending their last meeting. The theme of this 12th meeting was around networking, with the academic presentations of Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker (Dean of Engineering and Director of EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacture in Emergent Macromolecular Therapies, UCL) and Professor Marc-Olivier Coppens (Head of Chemical Engineering and Director of Centre for Nature Inspired Engineering, UCL) providing good insights on how networking helped shape their career paths.

Maiwenn Kersaudy-Kerhoas

Farewell to the first cohort of ECFMR:

We are wishing farewell to the last members of the first ECF cohort: Adam Clare, Stuart Coles, Karen Coopman, Robert Darlington, Robert Kay, Candice Majewski, Siddarth Padwarthan and Jonathan Shephard. We thank them for making the forum a highly thought-provoking, interesting space to create, debate, and be inspired. We will keep track of their progress and successes in an alumni section in this newsletter.



Looking back: 4 years as an ECF member

I was on the ECF for just under 4 years and a lot of things changed for me over that time. I was promoted to Senior Lecturer, became Director of a CDT and a member of the Manufacturing the Future SAT. Was this all down to being an ECF member? Probably not, but being on an EPSRC forum was the first step to getting noticed by the senior management team. For me it was a great opportunity to not only build a broader network, demystify EPSRC and do some training but it also represented 'me time'. Both the journeys to/from and the sessions themselves were a rare chance to step away from e-mails and marking and reflect on my career development and research instead. The opportunities we had to meet a variety of different leaders (CIM Directors, Institute Heads or others) helped to inform some of that thinking as they highlighted different leadership styles and provided some perspective from a different institution than my own. So what is my advice? Think about what you want out of the Forum and make sure appropriate activities are then included on the agenda. Then, to get the most of this you need to attend (and not just physically) so do not feel guilty about prioritising yourself for those few days in the year – turn off your e-mails and make the most of the opportunity.

Karen Coopman



Institute of Making

On the 14th of April the ECF members visited the Institute of Making on the ground floor of the engineering building at UCL. The visit was host by Dr Ellie Doney, Makespace manager.

The Institute of Making (IoM) is a multidisciplinary research club for those interested in the made world: from makers of molecules to makers of buildings, synthetic skin to spacecraft, soup to diamonds, socks to cities. The mission of IoM is to provide all makers with a creative home in which to innovate, contemplate and understand all aspects of materials and an inspiring place to explore their relationship to making. The ECF members first explored the Materials Library – a growing repository of some of the most extraordinary materials on earth – before visiting the workshop and the 3D printing facilities. A number of prototypes were shown to the ECF members and the processes used to fabricate them were explained.

Ioannis Papakonstantinou

Institute of Making

<http://www.instituteofmaking.org.uk/>

Outreach Survey

I sent a quick survey to current ECF members to find out about past and current Outreach activities within the forum and probe interest for a working group. Here are some quick findings from preliminary results (65% response rate): 50% of the ECF members have already led an Outreach activity but 33% say they have never participated in Outreach. There is a spread of interest on formats (science festivals, unusual venues, school workshops) and focus (girls, minorities, remote communities) so further discussions with a working group of 8 members is expected.

Thank you for all the amazing examples of those of you who are participating and leading Outreach activities, I will attempt to present a complete picture of these activities in September.

Maiwenn Kersaudy-Kerhoas

On your agenda:

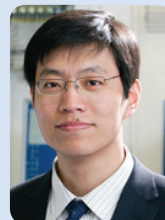
The next meeting will be hosted in September 2016 by Chris Holland at the University of Sheffield. The meeting will be chaired by Paul Roach (Keele University) and the theme will revolve around achieving impact on several levels: research, commercial, impact in the media, and impact through other public engagement means.

New cohort

The new and third EPSRC ECF in Manufacturing Research cohort announced at the 2015 Manufacturing the Future conference attended their first meeting. The new cohort is more diverse than ever with several designers joining the forum. The individual profiles of the newcomers, present members and alumni can be found online at:

<https://ecfmanufacturing.org/members/>

Welcome to Rebecca Cain, Vimal Dhokia, Kate Goldsworthy, Colin Hare, Yan Jin, Laura Justham, Byung Chui Kim, Ian Oswald, Paul Roach and Manish Tiwari.



EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1ET

www.epsrc.ac.uk

Further Information

<https://ecfmanufacturing.org/>

Editor: Dr Maiwenn Kersaudy-Kerhoas - M.Kersaudy-Kerhoas@hw.ac.uk

EPSRC Contact: Dr Rebecca Williams - Rebecca.williams@epsrc.ac.uk