

Activity & Progress Reporting
Section Spring Meeting - 29th April 2022

<p>1) Chapter/Affinity Group:</p>	<p>Women in Engineering</p>
<p>2) Committee Members</p>	<p>Steering Group</p> <p>Chair: Dr Annabel Latham, Manchester Metropolitan University</p> <p>Vice-Chair: Dr Princy Johnson, Liverpool John Moores University</p> <p>Officer & Awards & Projects lead: Ms Ruth Lennon, Letterkenny Institute of Technology</p> <p>Officer & Early WIE Professionals lead: Dr Nagham Saeed, University of West London</p> <p>Past Chair: Dr Keeley A Crockett, Manchester Metropolitan University</p> <p>Website, Social Media & Publicity Lead: Ms Ferheen Ayaz, Glasgow University</p> <p>Committee Members:</p> <p><i>Schools Outreach lead:</i> Prof Rebecca Strachan, Northumbria University</p> <p><i>Professional Development and Industry Links lead:</i> Dr Mona Jaber, Queen Mary University London</p> <p>Ms Medha Subramanian</p> <p>Dr Salma Alarefi, Leeds University</p> <p>Prof Algirdas Pakštas</p> <p>Ms Fan Zhang, Sussex University</p> <p>Prof Federica Sarro, UCL</p> <p>Ms Maryam Heiderian, Robert Gordon University</p> <p>Dr Nabila Rufai, Newcastle University</p> <p>Maebh Larkin, Eaton Intelligent Power Ltd</p> <p>Ms Charchita Misra, Nokia</p> <p>Dr Ying Li, Nottingham University</p>
<p>3) Reporting Officer:</p>	<p>Annabel Latham</p>
<p>4) Overview of current plan and activities:</p>	<p>Below is a summary of the current plan which is dynamic. WIE committee members often receive requests to speak at events or to organise hands on sessions, so the plan in section 9 reflects some of the main activities planned for 2022</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Develop a WIE Ireland network of volunteers to promote WIE at events (in collaboration with WIE R8) ii. Extend our database of female keynote speakers for recommendations to conference committees iii. Continue to develop the WIE Ambassador scheme to mentor and support new volunteers, plan and manage events iv. Promote links and joint networking events with other Region 8 WIE groups v. Apply for SIGHT funding to develop training support materials for neuro-diverse women in engineering and technical careers to cope with scenarios specific to these careers (e.g. Scrum sprint meetings)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Promote WIE member elevations vii. Promote the formation of WIE affinity student groups viii. Collate STEM resources – to promote activities for different age groups – eg. CIGRE storybook, People Like Me ix. STEM and careers talks/workshops in Schools x. Schools outreach technical activities/clubs xi. University and School workshops xii. WIE led special sessions in IEEE Conferences, xiii. Publicity - press articles, videos, promotion of activities xiv. Joint events with technical and student chapters xv. Production of WIE posters and distribution to schools/colleges/universities
<p>5) Key Achievements and member value/services to date:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strong committee which is geographically dispersed across the UK and Ireland ● Recently grown the committee to 18 members and restructured to incorporate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steering committee ○ 5 focussed working groups (with 14 projects): ○ WIE Member Professional Development; ○ Awards and Projects; ○ IEEE Society Collaborations; ○ Early WIE Professionals; ○ Schools Outreach ● WIE Awards scheme launched in 2021 with 4 awards made ● WIE Ambassadors scheme to mentor and support new volunteers – we have 9 Ambassadors registered for 2022 based in London, Manchester, Berkshire, Reading, Newcastle, Glasgow, and Dublin ● WIE Ambassadors events – 5 WIE ambassador events organised and run, and delivered by WIE ambassadors in 2021, 2 so far in 2022 ● Bi-monthly WIE Ambassadors meetings to network and arrange events ● WIE membership elevation: supported 8 elevations to SM; 6 women submitted and elevated to SMIEEE ● Key events from Jan-Apr 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “<i>Early Career Talks-4th</i>”, A Series of Technical Talks, WIE Ambassadors event, 17-Feb-22 ○ (Naghm Saeed) participated in series of Keynotes in ‘<i>Empowerment of Iraqi Women in Engineering and Science</i>’ workshop, IEEE Iraq section 2022, 8-Mar-22 ○ “<i>Women in Technology: Networking</i>”, A Series of Inspirational Talks from Academia and Industry, Joint event with Manchester Metropolitan University, 5-Apr-22 ○ “<i>Early Career Talks-5th</i>”, A Series of Technical Talks, WIE Ambassadors event, 7-April-22 (60 attendees) ○ (Rebecca Strachan) <i>IEEE EDUCON - Round Table: Communities and organizations of women in engineering: past, present and future (COWomEn)</i>, 29-April-22 ● Monthly online Working Group committee meetings to report on actions and plan events ● 2-monthly Working Group lead committee meetings for planning and management ● Quarterly Steering Group committee meetings for strategic planning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-Feb-22 WIE committee Re-structuring and Strategy workshop to discuss and agree new WIE structure and strategy for the next 2 years • Maintain active social media presence: FaceBook group and page; LinkedIn; Twitter; Youtube channel – FB page visits up 19.5%; Tweets earned 2.3K impressions since Jan-22 • 3 committee members are STEM ambassadors, enabling easy access to schools and colleges for WIE talks and events • WIE UKI Posters available for download on website • Promotion of YouTube channel and social media presence
<p>6) Key Challenges:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time! • Links with Industry • Funding for travel of committee members to run at least one joint event a year in the UK which can be combined with a face-to-face committee meeting • To understand what platforms we can use to provide shared resources both to IEEE members but also to the wider community (e.g. school STEM packs) • We are aiming for cultural change, which is slow and difficult to measure
<p>7) Deficits/Required Resources:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Travel of committee members to meet once a year at a central location in UKI for an AGM and face-to face committee meeting 2) Funding for Student Career Development Workshop (London QMUL 30-Sep-22) – for student support awards and catering. Match funded by QMUL and industrial partners 3) Funding for production of WIE Ambassadors posters and conference popup poster stand (Ireland) 4) Funding for schools outreach workshop 5) Resources to support developing an online shared set of resources around school outreach
<p>8) Actions/Support requested from the Section:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval to cover committee members' travel expenses for an annual AGM (online and in person) and face-to-face meeting of WIE committee – could be combined with an event • How can we report work such as production of posters, press articles, etc. as these are not events (covered by L31) but are an important part of our strategy for challenging stereotypes? • Drive for more representation of women in leadership of technical chapters and Section
<p>9) Action Plan:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) (Ruth Lennon Diversity Chair) <i>2022 Cyber Research Conference Ireland (Cyber-RCI)</i> – Sponsored by IEEE WIE UK and Ireland, 25-Apr-22 2) 2022 WIE Awards – integrate with Section awards, attract joint funding and promote at all events 3) <i>Early Career Talks (6)</i>, WIE Ambassadors 4) 2 <i>Challenges and Opportunities</i> workshops, WIE Ambassadors 5) Five North East universities (Teesside, Sunderland, Durham, Newcastle and Northumbria) International Women in Engineering Day event (Apr-22) 6) Develop close links with WIE Student Affinity groups for support and joint events 7) Virtual Coding workshop with primary schools 8) Apply for SIGHT funding to develop training support materials for neuro-diverse women in engineering and



United Kingdom and Ireland Section

	<p>technical careers to cope with scenarios specific to these careers (e.g. Scrum sprint meetings)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">9) Gather and disseminate shared resources around school outreach to promote activities for different age groups – eg. CIGRE storybook, People Like Me10) Series of School outreach workshops – 3 in total with school teachers and outreach community to share practice, pitfalls, support, etc. Focus this year on primary age range. One for summer term and two for the Autumn term.11) Outreach for Disabled Children – initial conversation about how to support disabled children and their teachers/carers. This needs to be continued but probably something around sharing resources/potential event, etc. (Note: special needs now seems to be a term that is not favoured and there’s a return to using disability instead).12) Promote links and joint networking events with other Region 8 WIE groups Promote WIE member elevations13) Promote the formation of WIE affinity student groups14) Work with industry associations and companies to deliver joint events (eg. KPMG Manchester, Eaton Intelligent Power Ltd Dublin)15) Continue to develop a database of female keynote speakers for recommendations to conference committees16) Continue to promote WIE Ambassador scheme to mentor and support new volunteers17) Promote mentoring scheme (organised via Collaboratec)18) Contact each IEEE UKI chapter and invite to do joint events, and to include WIE representation/talks19) To write press articles of events sponsored / run by UKI WIE to raise profile20) To maintain an active social media presence and You Tube Channel.21) Posters campaign – publicise posters and get them on walls whenever we visit anywhere (e.g. when in schools in STEM ambassador role)22) Produce WIE Ambassadors poster23) Send ‘Breaking the bias for Women in Engineering’ article to press for IWIE Day24) WIE committee members to actively engage in STEM events in Schools (weekly- monthly activities) including career talks, hours of code, engineering challenges etc
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