## **Trustees Annual Report for 2016**

## European Federation of Chemical Engineering



## Trustees in 2016/17

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# The European Federation of Chemical Engineering will...

#### Serve the European Chemical Engineering Community 1. By providing a platform for views and opinions and identifying opportunities for its voice to be heard Support Chemical Engineers within EFCE Member Societies 2. Working Parties and Sections Conferences and Seminars Newsletters, Website and e-bulletins Support the Education and Training of Chemical Engineers 3. within Europe • Active Education Working Party EFCE Journals • Input Into Development of Curricula Training Bursaries 4. Influence Decision Makers and Opinion Formers on Matters of **Importance to Chemical Engineers** • By Helping to Shape European Policy Promoting Public Understanding of Science Contributing to European R&D Programmes Fostering Academic/Industry Links 5. Initiate Collaborations in Support of Common Goals and for the Advancement of Science and Technology • Proactive Horizon Scanning and Topic Spotting Bringing People Together via Respected European Technical Networks

EFCE will help European society to meet its needs through highlighting the role of Chemical Engineering in delivering sustainable processes and products

# Public Benefit Statement

The charity trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising their powers or duties.

# **Objectives and Activities**

The objectives of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering, as stated in its Constitution, are "for the benefit of the public to promote co-operation in Europe and elsewhere between non-profit making professional scientific and technical societies which share amongst their aims the general advancement of science and education of the public in chemical engineering and the encouragement of the development of chemical engineering."

By enabling like-minded societies in Europe to co-operate, EFCE encourages progress in chemical engineering by facilitating the exchange of information and opinion in meetings, congresses and journals, support leading researchers and emerging talent through medals and prizes, and enabling industrialists and academics from across Europe to discuss topics of common concern.

EFCE is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees. It has an 'Association' model constitution, dated 9 December 2014.

# Key Achievements and Performance during 2016

## President's report

2016 involved major changes within the administrative structure of the EFCE as well as more focused activities in the scientific areas and better communication with the member societies.

To comply with tax laws, EFCE's secretariats using paid members of staff are no longer able to provide their services free of charge. To ensure that EFCE derives best value for money from the services it now has to pay for, EFCE's Executive Board set up an Audit Committee consisting of 3 members of the EFCE Executive Board. Their remit was to evaluate all activities of EFCE with respect to importance, cost, impact and performance. The Audit Committee reported at the end of summer of 2016. Based on the recommendation of this committee, a new administrative structure was implemented taking into account a balanced budget, more efficient administration, better services to the member societies, and improved communication. For more details, see the report of the Executive Vice President.

In the scientific area, progress continue on consolidating the scientific activities into focused topical Working Parties and Sections. As part of this drive, EFCE has launched a new Section on Energy. Meanwhile, EFCE member societies, Working Parties and Sections continues to organise a very healthy line-up of conferences and workshops covering almost all aspects of chemical engineering. For more details, see the report of the Scientific Vice President.

In the area of conferences, we have decided to promote and highlight the biennial European Congress of Chemical Engineering (ECCE) series as our flag-ship conference. ECCE aims to bring experts from industry and academia from all over the world to present and discuss their latest research results and to provide students the opportunity to learn about the latest developments and to contribute to the discussion. It further offers participants a forum for networking, allows industry to exhibit their latest products, creates a meeting space for job providers and job seekers, and many more. Our member societies from Spain will host the next ECCE-11 together with the tenth World Congress of Chemical Engineering (WCCE-10) in Barcelona in October 2017.

The next meeting in the series, ECCE-12, will take place in Florence, Italy, in September 2019, organised by EFCE's Italian member organisation, AIDIC. ECCE-12 will also incorporate the 5th European Congress of Applied Biotechnology (ECAB-5), the biennial conference of EFCE's sister organisation, the European Society of Biochemical Engineering Sciences (ESBES).

Another aim for EFCE is to allow it to respond to new scientific developments more flexibly and quickly through the creation of a new series of one-day workshops on topics of current and future interest. The first event in this series is currently under preparation and is due to be held in France in 2018.

In the spirit of partnership and collaboration, we are open to joining successful EFCE events with other events, provided there is a good fit, and to jointly organising events with our partners. Examples include the decision to co-host ECCE with ECAB, and to jointly organise the International Congress on Sustainability Science and Engineering (ICOSSE) with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) whenever it is held in Europe.

The restructuring of services of the EFCE means that there is a better communication among the member societies, Working Parties and Sections. We actively use communication media such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, not only to reach a wide audience, but also to start discussions on topics of mutual interest. For example, since January 2016, the membership of EFCE's LinkedIn channel has increased by more than 40%. As a service to the community, EFCE joined SPIRE, a public-private partnership set up within the EU's Horizon 2020 programme tasked with stimulating greater resource and energy efficiency in the process industries, and EFCE's members are warmly invited to contribute to SPIRE activities on behalf of the Federation.

Our awards are increasingly attracting corporate sponsorship, with BASF, Bayer, Beiersdorf, Perstorp and PSE all choosing to sponsor EFCE awards. It is our intention to have all the EFCE awards sponsored by the European industrial sector.

All in all, I believe that the EFCE has improved its communication with the members through its restructured administration; reached out beyond Europe to attract new members and thereby getting them to know more about EFCE and its activities; maintained and extended its scientific activities through its topical Working Parties and thematic Sections; recognized the achievements of its members through awards and engaging a selection of European experts in contributing to its scientific panel.

In 2017, EFCE will be organising it's flag-ship ECCE-11 conference jointly with the World Congress and will launch a special series on short one-day workshops on selected topics. EFCE is hoping to consolidate its position within the chemical and biochemical engineering community through better and more successful conferences; attracting more member societies from Europe and beyond; improve the communication between EFCE secretariat, trustees and the member societies; provide more support to the member societies in education and research; and, last but not the least, engage the students in EFCE activities.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Rafiqul Gani President

# Key Achievements and Performance during 2016

## Report from the Executive Vice President

2016 was the second full year of EFCE as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Executive Board Spring meeting was held in Barcelona (to provide an opportunity to visit the venue for WCCE 2017) and the Autumn meeting was held in Prague (to coincide with the CHISA meeting). Over the year EFCE underwent a number of major changes in the way it is administered. The highlights of these changes are summarised below.

Three secretariats support EFCE – IChemE (UK), DECHEMA (Germany) and SFGP (France). This support has to date been provided as a contribution in kind. In late 2015, DECHEMA announced that the German tax authorities were requiring them to invoice EFCE for their services from 2016 onwards. IChemE indicated that they would also be expected to invoice for their services in the future. As SFGP only uses volunteers, there was no similar requirement for them to charge. This change had major implications for the finances of EFCE and led to a need to re-examine the way it operates in order to achieve a balanced budget.

At its Spring meeting, the Board of Trustees appointed three of the Board (Hermann J. Feise - Germany, Jiří Drahoš – Czech Republic and Giorgio Veronesi - Italy) to conduct an audit of the EFCE's General Secretariats and related administrative issues.

The audit committee reviewed documentation provided by the three existing General Secretariats, complemented by telephone interviews with all three secretariats, the presidency on the EFCE and selected Working Party and Section leaders. The committee made a number of recommendations resulting in significant changes in the way in which EFCE is administered. In particular:

- A three year revised budget was drawn up, based on the principle of limiting secretarial expenditure to the income received from membership subscriptions.
- A minimum reserve level was adopted equal to three times the annual membership income.
- The Executive Vice President is now responsible for the administrative affairs of the EFCE with the help of the management committee and the activities of the secretariats. The management committee, which holds monthly video conferences to discuss day to day matters in the running of EFCE, was renamed the management committee, to be chaired by Executive VP.

- The Scientific Vice President is responsible for the management of the scientific affairs of the EFCE, with the help of the newly-formed scientific committee, consisting of the chairs of the EFCE Working Parties and Sections. In addition, he or she is responsible for following up on the European Congress of Chemical Engineering (ECCE) -events with the host organisation.
- The President sets the overall strategy of EFCE, oversees its management and scientific affairs and public relations, and has overall responsibility for accounts, contracts, and similar matters.

The roles and responsibilities of the secretariats have been re-defined and overall activities reduced to achieve the above objective.

SFGP is now responsible for planning and arranging scientific committee meetings, collecting WP and Section reports and compiling the annual Scientific VP report.

IChemE handles all financial management aspects. Since September 2016 it also handles Event Number applications, which are required for all conferences and events organised by EFCE Working Parties and Sections. Finally IChemE produces EFCE's Annual Report and ensures the organisation complies with the requirements of the UK Charity Commission.

DECHEMA continues to manage all Working Party and Section membership issues and handles all EFCE Medals and Awards. In conjunction with IChemE, it also provides support to communications, including the website, other social media and the newsletter, and provides administrative support to the EFCE committees and the Member Societies and Institutional Members.

Administration has been streamlined. With regards to the management committee, face to face meetings have been replaced by monthly video conferences, chaired by the Executive VP. Detailed minutes have been replaced by action points and documents are now administered via a share point.

The position of the information officer was discontinued, with DECHEMA and IChemE providing support for communication. The President also took over

responsibility for public relations (assisted by a volunteer).

With regards to the ECCE/ECAB conferences, the working relationships between EFCE and ESBES and the country host have been formalised by the development of signed agreements.

While it is regrettable that it is no longer possible for EFCE to rely on free of charge secretarial services, we are confident that the measures put in place strengthen EFCE's organisation, leaving EFCE well-placed to move forward with its mission to further the development of chemical engineering and helping scientific and technical societies in Europe collaborate.



Mike Considine Executive Vice President

# Working Parties and Sections

For EFCE's twenty Working Parties and four Sections, 2016 was a year of consolidating existing work and building on the shared vision, which places the Working Parties and Sections at the centre of EFCE's activities, as the scientific engine that drives the rest of the organisation.

The question for us to address was how to build on this and how to further improve the system in order to have a stronger and more sustainable framework.

The consensus was to take five actions.

1) The French Secretariat of EFCE has taken on the task of supporting the scientific work of the Working Parties and Sections, ensuring that local organisers of the European Congress of Chemical Engineering (ECCE) follow the agreed format of the series, and developing novel ideas for technical engagement to be proposed to the Executive Board.

2) Representatives from all Working Parties and Sections are actively involved in the organisation of the ECCE series, through participation in the scientific committee as topic managers or coordinators. The policy, first enacted in the organisation of ECCE-10 in Nice in 2015 and continued for the World Congress in 2017 and ECCE-12 in Florence in 2019, ensures that the European Congress is and remains the flagship event of EFCE with active involvement right across the organisation's scientific community.

3) To further improve coordination and cross-fertilisation of ideas, the chairs of the Working Parties and Sections meet every year, usually at the ECCE congress or at the International Congress of Chemical and Process Engineering (Chisa).

4) Over the course of 2016, we proposed and developed the concept of a new Section on Energy, EFCE's fifth Section. The Section will be headed by Prof. François Maréchal (EPFL Lausanne) and Prof. Fabrizio Bezzo (Padova University), together with the existing Working Parties and Sections and the Energy Centre of the Institution of Chemical Engineers.

5) The Energy Section's activities will be grouped under two headings, Energy in Chemical Engineering and Chemical Engineering in Energy. Its subsections are:

- Energy and resource efficiency in Chemical industrial plants
- Energy conversion, renewable energy and CO<sup>2</sup> mitigation
- Waste-water-energy nexus
- Fuels and their usage: refineries and petrochemicals, transportation
  - Biomass: biofuels and bioproducts
  - Hydrogen, carbon capture and reuse
  - Energy storage and electrochemical processes

6) We plan to further expand the scientific life of EFCE with a new series of one day events devoted to hot scientific topics and topics of interest to chemical engineering. The vision is that these events will help cross-fertilise actions between EFCE and other science and engineering societies linked to the proposed topic.

Topics we envision to be covered in this EFCE Forum on New Technologies include

- Chemical engineering and 3D printing
- Chemical engineering and future in intensification
- Chemical engineering and interdisciplinary innovation
- Chemical engineering and future plant
- Chemical engineering and health care
- Chemical Engineering and smart manufacturing, etc

The first event in the series will be devoted to chemical engineering and 3D printing and is scheduled to take place in 2018 in Paris. Future events are expected to take place every two years, in-between the ECCE.

In addition to all the above, EFCE's Working Parties and Sections continue to be very engaged within their subject areas, with activities including drafting position papers, participating in plenary lectures, giving keynote lectures in international gatherings such as the AIChE meetings, organising scientific meetings for EFCE with international events such as ISCRE, ESCAPE, and the Loss Prevention Symposium to name but a few, setting up workshops, summer schools and running the everyday scientific life.

Thanking you for your great achievements which credit EFCE's scientific life. I am very proud to be able to serve you as Scientific Vice President.

**Prof. Jean-Marc Le Lann Scientific Vice President** 

Dr Martine Poux SFGP secretariat support



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# Events

## PhD Workshop on Food Engineering and Technology

#### Uzwil, Switzerland April 28-29

The 10th European PhD Workshop on Food Engineering and Technology took place at the end of April at Bühler in Uzwil and brought together some of the best young researchers in food engineering. "The challenges we face in feeding almost 10 billion people by the year 2050 require innovations across the whole value chain," explains Ian Roberts, Chief Technology Officer of Bühler.

The event saw 16 PhD students from 12 European countries presenting their research. The projects were then evaluated by leading food engineering professors from European universities and representatives from industry partners like Bühler, Nestlé, Barilla, Givaudan, and General Mills. The Bühler Food Engineering Award was awarded for the first time this year and complements the Julius Maggi Research Award, which is also presented at the event and is sponsored by Nestlé.

Bühler Food Engineering Award 2016 winner: The first place went to Josef Hörmansperger, PhD candidate from ETH Zurich, for developing a microbial decontamination method which is based on a vacuum-steamvacuum process. The process allows the decontamination of food powders which are sensitive to heat or moisture, for example milk powder, without compromising their quality.

Julius Maggi Research Award 2016 winner: The first place of the Julius Maggi Research Award went to Pia Meinlschmidt, PhD candidate from the Technical University in Munich and the Fraunhofer IVV in Freising, Germany, for examining non-thermal food processing technologies for the reduction of soy allergy. These technologies could be used to produce low-allergen food ingredients that combine good taste and, at the same time, address the growing concerns many consumers have about different food allergies.

The 10th European PhD Workshop on Food Engineering and Technology was hosted by Bühler's Corporate Technology team in collaboration with the European Federation of Food Science and Technology (EFFoST), the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) and the European Academy of Food Engineering (EAFE). Every year, the event brings together the best PhD students from all over Europe. PhD candidates in Food Engineering and Technology can submit their research projects on any subject at the interface of food and engineering.

More information about the event is available on http://www.phdfoodworkshop.com

## EFCE Forum on Energy

#### Prague Czech Republic, 27 August 2016

The EFCE Forum on Energy featured an overview of the key challenges in the field of energy and how chemical engineers can contribute to developing solutions. The speakers were:

Management of energy and chemical engineering - the role of the chemical engineer Prof Jean Marc LeLann, University of Toulouse/INP-Ensiacet, France

CO2, biomass, storage, efficienty: the role of chemical engineering in the energy transition Prof François Maréchal, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland

Uncertainty and complexity in the design of biomass-based energy systems - the perfect chemical engineering job? Prof Fabrizio Bezzo, CAPE Lab, University of Padova, Italy

Energy Future - oil and gas and the contribution of industrial ecology Prof Richard Darton, University of Oxford and IChemE Energy Centre, UK

US Department of Energy efforts in Process Intensification June Wispelwey, Executive Director, AIChE, USA

A video recording of the EFCE Forum on Energy is now available on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPIZeugnth4

## XXII International Conference on Chemical Reactors

#### 19-23 September 2016, London, United Kingdom

Chemreactor-22 was organised by Boreskov Institute of Catalysis of the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Sciences and University College London (UCL) and took place in London from 12-23 September 2016.

The Chemreactor conference series dates back to the 1960s, when Prof Mikhail Slin'ko began organising extended sessions on the subject of chemical reactors. Slin'ko was one of the most distinguished scientists in the field of catalysis and mathematical modelling of chemical processes and reactors, one of the founders of the Institute of Catalysis, corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Within a few years, the sessions grew into a conference which soon became an international series, taking place in the scientific and innovative centers developing chemical technologies.

Taking place biennially, Chemreactor attracts internationally recognized scholars as well as the representatives of the large industrial companies, thus creating the platform for exchanging new ideas and discussing the last achievements by science and industry.

Since 2006 the conference is opened by an Honorary Lecture in the memory of Mikhail Slin'ko; an honour which in 2016 went to the distinguished Belgian researcher Professor Gilbert Froment. Nearly 200 experts from 29 countries attended the six plenary lectures, nine keynote lectures, 67 oral and 100 poster presentations.

A distinctive feature of the Chemreactor scientific programme is the combining the deep fundamental presentations with the works having crucial practical significance. In 2016, the focus was:

- Advances in Chemical Reactor Fundamentals
- Chemical Reaction Engineering and Reactor Design Novel Experimental Approaches, Modeling, Scale-Up and Optimization
- Chemical Reactors and Technologies for Targeted Applications
- Advanced Processing of Conventional and Unconventional Hydrocarbon Feedstocks

Plenaries and keynotes were delivered by well-known scientists in their field such as Vice-President of Chinese Academy of Science Professor Jinghai Li (Institute of Process Engineering CAS, China), Professor David West (Sabic Company, USA), Professor Lynn Gladden (University of Cambridge, UK), Professor Murray Moo-Young (Waterloo University Canada), Professor Sotiris E. Pratsinis (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich, Switzerland) and Professor Andrey Zagoruiko (Boreskov Institute of Catalysis SB RAS, Russia), to mention just a few.

The organisers have already received the invitations from the participants to host the next Chemreactor conference in their cities and universities, and look forward to seeing you at Chemreactor-23.

# EFCE Excellence Awards 2016

EFCE Excellence Awards recognise PhD theses or publications of young researchers published in preceding years which demonstrate the most outstanding contribution to research and/or practice in the scientific fields of the EFCE Working Parties and Sections.

The awards comprise a certificate, a cash award of  $\leq 1,500$  and a travel grant of up to  $\leq 500$  to attend the congress where the award will be presented.

#### Excellence Award in Recognition of an outstanding PhD Thesis on Computer Aided Process Engineering 2016

awarded to Dr. Michele Corbetta for his outstanding PhD thesis on "*Green Ethylene Glycol: MINLP Downstream Process Optimization and Multi-scale Simulation of Gasification Processes*" completed at the Politecnico di Milano, Italy, under the supervision of Professor Sauro Pierucci.

The award was presented on 13 June 2016 on the occasion of the 26th European Symposium on Computer Aided Process Engineering - ESCAPE'26, held in Portoroz, Slovenia, from 12 to 15 June 2016.



#### Excellence Award in Mechanics of Particulate Solids 2016

awarded to Mr. Christopher Ness for a series of excellent papers, published in conjunction with his PhD studies on "*Suspension rheology and extrusion studied by discrete element simulations*", which achieved the best evaluation results in terms of innovativeness, breadth and depth of the study, quality of publications, and the transfer of know-how to industrial applications.



The award was presented on 20 April 2016 during the plenary session of the International Congress on Particle Technology - PARTEC 2016 - in Nuremberg, Germany.

#### Excellence Award in Process Safety 2016

awarded to Dr. Stefania Cagnina for her excellent PhD thesis on "Understanding of the mechanisms of chemical incompatibility of ammonium nitrate by molecular modeling", completed at the University Pierre et Marie Curie and INERIS (National Institute for Industrial Environment and Risks), France, under the supervision of Professor Carlo Adamo and Dr. Patricia Rotureau.

The Award was presented in Freiburg, Germany, on 7 June 2016 during the 15th Loss Prevention Symposium.

# EFCE Awards for senior researchers 2016

#### Distinguished Lecture in Thermodynamics and Transport Properties

The Distinguished Lecture on Thermodynamics and Transport Properties aims to honour a senior member of the "Thermodynamics and Transport Properties" (TPP) community that is active in any of the EFCE member countries.

The third Distinguished Lecture of the EFCE Working Party on

Thermodynamics and Transport Properties was delivered by Professor Cornelis Peters during the 14th International Conference on Properties and Phase Equilibria for Product and Process Design (PPEPPD 2016), held in Porto, Portugal from 22 to 26 May 2016.

He was elected unanimously by the Selection Committee who thereby recognizes his 40 years of research contributions to the fundamental understanding of phase theory and its impact both on fundamental physical chemistry and thermodynamics but also on applications to industry.





# Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

EFCE's Executive Board consists of no more than 21 charity trustees, comprising three officers, up to twelve elected trustees, three nominated trustees, and up to three co-opted trustees.

### **Elected Trustees**

Trustees are elected at the EFCE General Assembly every two years. Member societies are invited to propose potential trustees four months ahead of the election. Each member society may nominate two candidates, one industrial and one academic. No more than six of the twelve elected trustees may be academics.

Elected trustees serve as members of EFCE's Executive Board for a two-year term starting the January after the General Assembly. They may stand for re-election for one further term, after which they must either stand down or stand for election to an officer role.

## Officers

Elections for EFCE's officers – the President, Executive Vice President and Scientific Vice President – also take place at the General Assembly every two years. Officers are endorsed by a simple majority of voting members based on nominations made by the trustees. Officers serve a two-year term and may stand for re-election to the same position once. No officer may serve for more than five consecutive terms as officer or trustee without spending at least one term out of office.

### **Other Trustees**

The General Secretariats may each nominate one individual to serve as trustee, for a term to be determined by the General Secretariat.

In addition, the Executive Board may co-opt up to three individuals to act as trustees. Unless removed earlier, they shall hold office until the next General Assembly. Coopted trustees may be re-co-opted at the discretion of the trustees, but may not serve in office for more than four consecutive years.

# **Financial Report**

from the period of 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM 31.12.16			
Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds €		
	2015	2016	
Transfer of funds from previous, unregistered European Federation of Chemical Engineering	0	81,883	
Charitable activities			
Member subscription income	0	32,028	
Event licence fee	0	14,344	
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES TOTAL	0	46,372	
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities			
Resources expended	0	2,926	
Charitable activities	0	37,451	
Other	0	2,260	
TOTAL	0	42,637	
NET INCOME	0	85,618	
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	0	0	
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	0	85,618	

The CIO was dormant until January 2016 when the new bank account was opened, and as a result did not have any activities or transactions during 2015.

The activities of the previous, unregistered European Federation of Chemical Engineering ceased at the start of 2016. All remaining assets were transferred to the EFCE CIO, in line with a resolution by the trustees of the CIO on 15 April 2016. As the transfer of assets was not completed until early 2017, the assets show as debtors in the 2016 accounts.

CONTINUING OPERATIONS			
All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities			
CURRENT ASSETS	2015	2016	
Debtors	0	82,694	
Cash at bank	0	10,030	
TOTAL	0	92,724	
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	0	-7,106	
NET CURRENT ASSETS	0	85,618	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	0	85,618	
NET ASSETS	0	85,618	
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	0	85,618	
TOTAL FUNDS	0	85,618	

This financial report is an extract of the Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2016, which have been independently examined by Magma Audit LLP, Rugby, UK. The full report is available on the EFCE website.

## **Principal Office**

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