

# EPSRC Early Career Forum in Manufacturing Research



Newsletter Summer 2017

## Foreword

Sheffield, Bath, Glasgow... the ECF meetings never happen at the same place, and provide us with the opportunity to explore numerous world-class manufacturing research facilities such as the EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacturing in Continuous Manufacturing and Crystallisation (CMAC) in Glasgow this April. These visits are for us eye-openers on the best practice across the country, opening possibilities for new collaborations and catalysts for new research ideas! In this newsletter I am also presenting the result of the first Alumni survey carried out at the end of 2016. I would like to thank again the surveys responders and all the contributors to this newsletter.

*Maiwenn Kersaudy-Kerhoas*

## Glasgow

I chaired the 15th ECF meeting hosted by Iain Oswald at Strathclyde University. In this meeting members focused on collaborative research ideas; initially defining general topics of common interest, then breaking out into groups for interested parties to discuss each topic. The main themes were: resource recovery and circular economy; nanoparticles and interfaces; robotics, high value manufacturing and 3D printing; continuous manufacturing. In keeping with the last topic, Iain gave us a tour of the impressive facilities and infrastructure at the EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacturing in Continuous Manufacturing and Crystallisation (CMAC). Expert talks were given by Craig Johnston and Joopter Horst (Strathclyde) to advise on applications for Innovate UK and European funding, respectively.

*Colin Hare*



## Bath

The 14th ECF meeting was hosted at University of Bath by Vimal Dhokia and chaired by Laura Justham (Loughborough University). The theme of this meeting was 'Engagement with commercial partners' and consisted of industrially oriented talks from Dr Zoe Webster (Head of High Value Manufacture, Innovate UK), Mr Ian Brooks (Principle Engineering, Moog), Mr Mike Adams (CEO, HiETA), and Mr Marc Saunders (Director, Global Solutions Centre, Renishaw). The talks facilitated discussions on how as early career researchers we can engage with industry to create long lasting collaborations that will not only benefit our academic pursuits, but will also benefit industry. In particular, the need and importance of IP management and protection was discussed. The final part of the 14th meeting involved a brief tour of the Department of Mechanical Engineering laboratories.

*Vimal Dhokia*

## Sheffield

On the 20th and 21st of September 2016, the 13th EPSRC ECF in Manufacturing Research met at the University of Sheffield. The meeting was hosted by Chris Holland (Sheffield) and chaired by Paul Roach (Loughborough). The first day of the meeting was run concurrently with the Sheffield Manufacturing Day, with a small poster session and industrial talks, including Steve Franklin, from Phillips Research and a Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor. Colin Sirrett, CEO at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre gave a vibrant talk on manufacturing and education. On the second day we had informal discussions relating to the meeting theme 'IMPACT' with Sarah Geere, Impact Consultant and Mike Arnott, Sheffield, Director of IP Development & Commercialisation at the University of Sheffield. The session was very well received and deemed useful by all members.

