

UK Acoustics Network Newsletter – July 2018

Dear Members,

You will be pleased to know that the UK Acoustics Network is still growing. As per today we have 368 members registered with the Network. It continues to be a rather busy Network.

On the 2nd of July the Sensors Special Interest Group (SIG) held its first meeting in Birmingham. The minutes this meeting can be found on https://acoustics.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/1st-sigsense-meeting_0207201_notes.pdf. This SIG had a very interesting discussion on the application of acoustics sensors, frequency range and power required for their activation. As a result, they developed a nice, interactive graph which you can view and update by going to <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uDt-BrmGcDiCpXBAXA4AeZ1m9zo1AjAQ2iN-hc1B92c/edit?usp=sharing>. They also proposed to set up a series of lab visit exchanges to enable our early career researchers and other interested members to visit key acoustics facilities and research groups in the UK and to meet fellow researchers and exchange information about their work. The first event will be held at Sheffield with support from the Tribo-Acoustics Research Group at our Leonardo Centre. Shortly, we will confirm the date which is likely to be in September 2018. We encourage all our members to support these events and to offer opportunities to visit their labs.

On the 11th of July our Underwater Acoustics SIG held their meeting in London to discuss Challenges of the Past & Challenges for the Future. The minutes of this meeting will be uploaded on our website shortly. We encourage our members to propose and organise similar events. These events are rather important as we are developing a white paper for acoustics. We hope to produce the first draft of this paper by the end of this year. In respect to this, I am pleased to announce that the UK Acoustics Network has teamed up with the Institute of Acoustics to monetise properly the impact of acoustics on the UK economy, society and environment. The idea is to produce a clear document supported by verifiable evidence which can be used by our community to promulgate the importance of acoustics as research discipline and to show that it is a highly important profession.

Two more exciting events took place in the last month with support from the Network. Richard Craster ran a highly successful European Workshop on Acoustic & Mechanical Metamaterials at the Imperial College (9-11th July) and Mark Plumbley ran a very successful Audio Day at the University of Surrey (6th of July). Both events have attracted over 200 participants and considerable publicity. For more information visit our Twitter pages at @acoustics_ac_uk which contain plenty of photographs and positive comments.

The date has been set for our first outreach event. It will be held at the University of Sheffield on Friday, the 12th of October 2018. We still looking for volunteers to help us to run this event. Also, we are still looking for more ideas on/contributions in the form of any hardware, mobile apps and PC software which can captivate the attention of a teenager. Please feel free to contact us at info@acoustics.ac.uk if you can think of anything particular we should include in our outreach activities.

Finally, we uploaded two Excel files on the Resource section of our website (see top of the <https://acoustics.ac.uk/resources> page). These contain lists of running UKRI grants related to acoustics (per May 2017 and May 2018). We are pleased to say that there were 203 live grants related to acoustics. The value of these grants was £156M, which is impressive. We need to keep these discipline going. We encourage our members to read these documents and let us know if something is missing or incorrect.

Enjoy the rest of this hot British summer.

Yours sincerely,

Kirill Horoshenkov and Richard Craster