Institute*of* **Physics**

**MAGNETISM GROUP**

**Summary of Annual General Meeting**

*Tuesday 9th April 2019*

**Group members**

The committee would like to thank the following former committee members whose term of office expired in 2019:

* Prof. Tom Thomson (University of Manchester)
* Prof. Rob Hicken (University of Exeter, former Chair)
* Prof. Alan Drew (QMUL, former Secretary)

During the year, the following committee members were elected:

* *Chair:*
  + Dr Thomas Moore, University of Leeds - Elected (unopposed)
* *Secretary:*
  + Dr Heather Lewtas, UKAEA - Elected (unopposed) and stood down as Ordinary Member
* Ordinary Members:
  + Professor Izabela Sosnowska, University of Warsaw
  + Dr Matthew Bryan, University of Exeter - Elected (via e-voting system)
  + Dr Sam Ladak, Cardiff University - Elected (via e-voting system)
  + Dr Solveig Felton, Queens University Belfast - Elected (via e-voting system)

The full Magnetism Group committee now includes the following members:

* Dr Thomas Moore, University of Leeds (Chair)
* Dr Heather Lewtas, UKAEA (Secretary)
* Dr Tim Mercer, University of Central Lancashire (Treasurer)
* Dr Tom Hayward, University of Sheffield
* Dr Claudio Castelnovo, University of Cambridge
* Dr Laura Bovo, UCL
* Dr Gonzalo Fernandez, University of York
* Dr Thomas Ostler, Sheffield Hallam University
* Dr Liam O’Brien, University of Liverpool
* Dr Matthew Bryan, Royal Holloway University
* Dr Sam Ladak, Cardiff University
* Dr Solveig Felton, Queens University Belfast
* Prof. Nicola Morley, University of Sheffield – co-opted (representing IEEE)
* Dr Shahid Hussain, QinetiQ – co-opted (to provide industrial perspective)
* Dr Christy Kinane, STFC – co-opted (to provide an ISIS/STFC perspective)

The group committee aims to represent and further the interests of its members, primarily through the organisation of scientific meetings, but also by responding to consultations. In doing this, the group work closely with other bodies who have similar interests, most notably the IEEE Magnetics Society UK, Ireland Chapter, and the UK Magnetics Society; many of the group members are also members of the other societies.

**Events**

In December 2018, the Winter Magnetism Training School, targeted at 1st year PhD students and early career researchers, took place at University of York. The committee thank the University of York for the support of this event.

The Magnetism 2019 conference was held at the University of Leeds and, consistent with previous events, proved successful in attracting over 150 delegates. The committee thank the University of Leeds for the support of this event. This year, a call for expression of interest to hold Magnetism 2020 was published. This was intended to try and open up the organisation of the conference to interested members outside the group committee.

In the coming year, the group intend to focus not only on the Winter School and Magnetism 2020, but also on the Current Research in Magnetism meeting (CRIM), introducing it in a themed format which this year will be “new developments in antiferromagnetism”.

**Group finances**

The group budget for the present year is £8,075, which represents an increment of £1600 from the previous year. It supports:

* Direct sponsorship of Magnetism 2019, the Winter School and CRIM.
* Joint sponsorship with the TCM Group of the Interface between Theory of Condensed Matter and Magnetism Meeting.
* External events
  1. Theoretical and Experimental Magnetism Meeting (TEMM), (Organiser: D.T. Adroja, STFC)
  2. 'Frontiers in Condensed Matter Physics' (Organiser: Dr. Chris Bell, University of Bristol).
  3. The ESR meeting (Organiser Stephen Sproules, University of Glasgow).

**Wohlfarth fund**

At present the fund has a balance of about £8000. It has been looked after by the Magnetism group committee for as long as the current committee members can recall.

In recent years the Wohlfarth fund has been used to support the Wohlfarth lecture, which has given the name of Peter Wohlfarth a high degree of visibility within the UK and among the international invited speakers and participants.

Earlier this year, it was been pointed out to the committee that the original intention for the fund was to support PhD student attendance at international conferences. However, there was no constitution or memorandum of understanding for the fund to say how it should be used. This led to detailed consideration and discussion as to whether the fund should in future be used to fund the lecture, student bursaries, or some combination of the two. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was written by the committee and agreed with the IEEE Magnetics Society, which was then opened up to all members of the group for consultation. At the AGM, it was agreed that the current use of the fund in supporting the Wohlfarth lecture was indeed the best continued use of the fund.