

NEWSLETTER

July 2008

Issue no. 1

Chairman's Report

Dear Member

Welcome to the ISAT Newsletter, which takes on a different form this time. I should firstly like to thank the outgoing officers, Prof. Steve Prosser (Chair), Dr Bill Maskell (Deputy Chair) and Dr Elfed Lewis (Honorary Secretary), for their outstanding efforts over a number of years, especially their contributions to organising our biennial conference, Sensors and Their Applications. There is a lot of work behind the scenes required to keep the show on the road, and I am sure that my thanks to them are extended on behalf of the whole ISAT Group. I should also like to thank some other retiring committee members, who have given long and very useful service to the committee over the years. These include Prof Mike Player, Prof Tony Colclough, Dr Ken Hale, and Dr Peter McGeehin.

I am pleased to welcome too some new faces to the committee. Dr Gail McConnell, having wet her toes by co-organising two very successful meetings on Biophotonics on behalf of the ISAT Group, has joined the committee as Honorary Secretary, and Dr Thangavel Thevar maintains the link with Aberdeen University following Mike Player's departure. Similarly, Dr Simon Reilly continues a longstanding link with NPL, following Prof Tony Colclough's retirement. Of course, the committee always requires enthusiastic new members to maintain its vigour, and suggestions for new members are always welcome. Please email nominations either to me or Gail at our addresses shown elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Group continues to be one of the largest and most active in the Institute of Physics. We have had another active and successful year, with several well-attended meetings organised and co-sponsored by other groups both from within and outside of the Institute (see below for reports on two of these), as well as our ongoing contributions to Photon08. Our annual AGM will take place at Photon08, at Heriot-Watt University on 28th August.

We do hope that you will support the Group by attending meetings and other events. If you feel that our future programme does not reflect your interests adequately, then please contact us: we will be happy to liaise with you, and arrange for a committee member to co-organise with you a meeting that more

accurately reflects the interests of the ISAT community.

I look forward to receiving your feedback.

Prof. Andy Augousti
Chair, ISAT Group

Honorary Secretary's Report

As a new-comer to the ISAT Committee, I look forward to communicating our activities to all of our members and meeting many of you at ISAT events.

Meetings and conferences

Since the previous newsletter, the ISAT group has held and contributed towards a number of meetings and conferences. Recent meetings have included:

- ICOLAD 2007 (3rd Int. Conf. on Optical & Laser Diagnostics), 23rd – 25th May 2007, City University, London
- Sensors & their Applications XIV, 11th – 13th Sept 2007, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool
- Biophotonics: Technology & Applications II, 29th November 2007.
- Optical Sensors in Physiological Measurements, IOP, London, 19th May 2008
- Terahertz Sensing, IOP, London, 30th June 2008.

We also have plans for future meetings including

- Biophotonics: Technology & Applications III, IOP, London, December 2008
- Sensors & their Applications (co-localised with the Optical Fiber Sensors Conference, October 2009).

If you have any ideas for future meetings that would be of interest to the members of ISAT, please contact myself or Andy.

Research student conference fund (RSCF)

The IOP has centralised the bursary process for students to apply for funding to attend research conferences. The Research Student Conference Fund (RSCF) are available to research students who are a member of the Institute and of an appropriate Institute group related to the conference subject. Students may apply for up to £250 during the course

of their PhD and it is intended that grants will normally cover only part of the expenses incurred in attending a conference with the remainder to be covered by other sources. Applications are considered on a quarterly basis and should reach the Institute by: 1 March, 1 June, 1 September or 1 December. A decision will be made within eight weeks of the closing date, so the deadline chosen should be at least *three months before your event*. More details on how to apply and an application form are available at <http://www.iop.org/> following the links:- About Us → The Institute of Physics → Support and Grants → Research Student Conference Fund.

Newsletter contributions

The ISAT newsletter is intended to communicate research ideas, events and activities within the broad remit of ISAT. If you wish to contribute towards the newsletter, or you have interests that you would like to have covered in forthcoming issues, please contact myself or Andy. Chances are that you are not alone in your interests and we welcome your feedback!

Dr Gail McConnell

Hon Sec and Treasurer, ISAT Group

Recent Events

2nd Annual meeting - Biophotonics: Technology and Applications

On 29th November 2007, Dr Gail McConnell and Professor Andy Augousti organised the 2nd Biophotonics: Technology and Applications meeting held at the Institute of Physics, London. The meeting was organised on behalf of the IOP Instrument Science and Technology Group and was co-sponsored by the IOP Optical Group, IOP Medical Physics Group and IOP Biological Physics Group. Furthermore, Elforlight, Olympus UK, Coherent, Spectra-Physics and Photon Lines provided financial support for the meeting and table-top demonstrations on the latest biophotonics instrumentation. The programme comprised fourteen presentations with speakers from the UK and Netherlands covering a wide range of biophotonics-related research. Examples include optical tweezing and transfection methods presented by researchers at Heriot-Watt and St. Andrews Universities, structured illumination and wide-field FLIM by researchers at King's College London and a variety of nonlinear microscopy techniques and applications by groups at Birmingham and Exeter University.



4th Annual meeting – Optical Sensors for Physiological Measurements

The 4th meeting of Optical Sensors for Physiological Measurements was held at the Institute of Physics, London on the 19th May 2008. Organised by Dr Panicos Kyriacou and Professor Andy Augousti, together with Dr Steve Morgan, on behalf of the IOP Instrument Science and Technology Group, this meeting was co-sponsored by the IOP Optical Group, IOP Medical Physics Group and IOP Biological Physics Group. Fourteen presentations from UK and Netherlands based speakers provided a diverse and fascinating range of techniques and technologies, including novel approaches to non-invasive blood glucose monitoring by researchers at City University, Raman micro-spectroscopy from the University of Nottingham and advances in automated classification of clinical OCT data from researchers at Cranfield University and Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.



The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Institute of Physics, except where explicitly stated.

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