



June 2019



### Launch of RSE Inquiry Report – Scotland's Energy Future

The report of the RSE's latest Inquiry was launched on Monday 17 June. The launch was attended by a range of interested individuals, journalists and RSE Fellows. The report highlights that no energy policy will be capable of solving all the issues relating to energy supply and use, but that, if correctly grasped, the challenges we face around energy could prove an enormous opportunity for Scotland to invest in the country's prosperity and wellbeing and position itself as a global innovator. The press release and full report can be downloaded from the RSE website at: [www.rse.org.uk/rse-inquiry-scotlands-energy-future-june-2019/](http://www.rse.org.uk/rse-inquiry-scotlands-energy-future-june-2019/)

### President's Summer Reception

This year's President's Summer Reception took place on the evening of Monday 10 June 2019 at the RSE. There was opportunity to view the exhibition, *Women in Science in Scotland*, currently on show in Reception, as well as a display to celebrate the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements. This was followed by the presentation of medals by the RSE President to recent recipients of the RSE's Senior and Early Career Awards. This diverse range of medallists discussed the inspiration behind, and the impact of their work, in the form of short talks and a panel discussion. The evening ended with a buffet supper. Photographs from the evening can be viewed at: [www.flickr.com/photos/137387449@N07/albums/72157709063479138](https://www.flickr.com/photos/137387449@N07/albums/72157709063479138)

### The Scottish Science Advisory Council (SSAC) seeking to fill positions

The SSAC is seeking a new Chair and up to seven new members to support the Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland, Professor Sheila Rowan FRSE, in providing advice to the Scottish Government to inform policy development and delivery. Appointments will be for three years initially, working alongside the existing members. Applications are sought from experts and leaders in their own areas, able to demonstrate a broad understanding of strategic science, engineering or technology issues, and to demonstrate connectivity to relevant networks in Scotland and further afield. Members are also expected to be operating at a senior level, most likely in academia, business or industry. Applicants for Chair should also be able to demonstrate leadership at a senior level. Further details are available at: [www.scottishscience.org.uk/article/ssac-recruitment-2019](http://www.scottishscience.org.uk/article/ssac-recruitment-2019)  
Closing date: midnight on 1 September 2019.

### Fellows Deceased

It is with much regret that we report the deaths of Professor Jerzy **Kroh** HonFRSE; and Professor Charles Joseph William **Brooks**. If you have any suggestions of obituary writers for those Fellows for whom we have not managed to commission a writer or source an obituary, please email: [obituaries@therse.org.uk](mailto:obituaries@therse.org.uk). A list showing the current state is available at: [www.rse.org.uk/fellows/past-fellows/](http://www.rse.org.uk/fellows/past-fellows/)

## Unlocking Ambition Celebration Event

Final presentations from the first cohort of the RSE Unlocking Ambition programme were given at an event at the RSE on Wednesday 26 June 2019. All 20 members of the cohort gave brief presentations of their projects and a specially-prepared promotional video was shown. Ivan McKee MSP, Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation was able to attend for some of the event, which was followed by celebratory drinks and cake. Unlocking Ambition Enterprise Fellows were then invited to attend a First Minister Reception at Bute House. A short video on the impact of the Unlocking Ambition Enterprise Fellowship, can be viewed at:

[www.rse.org.uk/awards/rse-unlocking-ambition-enterprise-fellowship-programme/](http://www.rse.org.uk/awards/rse-unlocking-ambition-enterprise-fellowship-programme/)

## RSE Journals

The Editorial Board of *Earth and Environmental Science Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh* would welcome suggestions from Fellows for potential topics for Special Issues. Please contact Gordon Adam, [gadam@theRSE.org.uk](mailto:gadam@theRSE.org.uk), for further information.

## Policy Advice

All RSE policy responses can be viewed online at: [www.rse.org.uk/policy/advice-papers/](http://www.rse.org.uk/policy/advice-papers/).

The following response was submitted this month: RSE response to the Scottish Government consultation on a Policy Framework for Devolved Taxes: [www.rse.org.uk/advice-papers/devolved-taxes-a-policy-framework/](http://www.rse.org.uk/advice-papers/devolved-taxes-a-policy-framework/)

## RSE Grants and Research Awards currently open:

**Arts & Humanities Small Grants; Workshops; Networks** – Closing date: Friday 27 September 2019.

For further details visit: [www.rse.org.uk/funding-awards/funding-search/](http://www.rse.org.uk/funding-awards/funding-search/)

(click Arts & Humanities in left hand filter list).

## RSE Young Academy of Scotland (YAS)

YAS has recently launched a new website and brand refresh. Visit [www.youngacademyofscotland.org.uk/](http://www.youngacademyofscotland.org.uk/) to learn about YAS, its members and its exciting programme of public benefit activities.

## RSE Events

**RSE President's Lecture** – *The Deep Learning Revolution*. Professor Geoffrey E Hinton FRSE. Thursday 18 July 2019, 6–7.30 pm. Professor Hinton is considered the leading authority on machine learning. Currently an Engineering Fellow at Google and Chief Scientific Adviser of the Vector Institute, Toronto, Professor Hinton was awarded the IEEE/RSE James Clerk Maxwell medal in 2016. For more information on his lecture and to book, visit: [www.rse.org.uk/event/the-rse-presidents-lecture-2019/](http://www.rse.org.uk/event/the-rse-presidents-lecture-2019/)

## RSE Summer Events Programme

This year, the RSE will be running a varied programme of events from its premises on George Street during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Under the title **Curious**, the programme will run from Friday 2 August until Monday 26 August and will comprise a range of performances, workshops, discussions, exhibitions, music, afternoon teas and a conversation café bar. A café bar will also be open to the public over this period with outside seating available, weather permitting! More information will be available on the RSE website in due course.

## All European Academies (ALLEA) and Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium (KVAB) Symposium Invitation

*Genome Editing for Crop Improvement* taking place 7/ 8 November 2019 in Brussels at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium. Expressions of interest and for more information please email [registrations@allea.org](mailto:registrations@allea.org)

## RSE Rooms Available to Hire

Rooms can be hired for conferences, dinners, meetings, receptions, seminars and celebratory occasions, and Fellows who do so are entitled to a 25% room hire discount. For more information, please visit:

[www.rse.org.uk/venue/](http://www.rse.org.uk/venue/) or contact Martina Hlinkova – [mhlinkova@theRSE.org.uk](mailto:mhlinkova@theRSE.org.uk) – 0131 240 5034.

## Staff News

Congratulations to Enterprise Fellowships Administrative Assistant, Robyn Courtenay and her partner, Clark Currie who had a baby boy on Tuesday 4 June. Rorie William Currie weighed in at 9lbs 12 oz – a big 'little' brother for Finlay.

## Feedback

Feedback on how we could improve this bulletin for Fellows is always welcome. To comment, or if you do not wish to receive future editions, please contact: Jenny Liddell – [jliddell@theRSE.org.uk](mailto:jliddell@theRSE.org.uk) – 0131 240 5019.