

Annual Statutory Meeting (ASM)

The date of this year's ASM has had to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances and it will now take place on Monday 21 October 2019 at 6.30 pm (rather than 28 October, as previously advised). Papers will be circulated shortly, but in the meantime, please confirm your attendance at the ASM – and any guest for the reception which will follow it – to Ashleigh Thow – athow@theRSE.org.uk – 0131 240 2794.



Opportunities for Fellows

Quiz-a-Whiz

We have reintroduced our *Quiz-a-Whiz* programme so that people can learn more about our Fellows and the work they do. Examples of recent interviews can be viewed on YouTube at: <http://bit.ly/RSEnewQuiz-a-Whiz>. If you would be interested in being interviewed and included in the series, please contact Steve Wilson – swilson@theRSE.org.uk – 0131 240 2798.

Edinburgh Science Festival

As part of their 2020 programme, the Edinburgh Science Festival's creative team is interested in collaborating with RSE Fellows to present themselves, or to identify people who might present, at Festival events. More information can be found here: www.rse.org.uk/edinburgh-science-festival-opportunity/

RSE Newsletter – ReSource

The first issue of our new-look ReSource has been published this week. This has been informed by feedback from a questionnaire we issued over the summer – thanks to all who took the time to respond. The magazine can be viewed online at: <http://bit.ly/RSE-Resource-Autumn2019>

Young Academy of Scotland (YAS)

As part of an ongoing project to create a Charter for Responsible Debate, the YAS is holding a public discussion event during the Festival of Politics on Saturday 12 October, 11.30 am–1 pm. *Can responsible debate renew democracies?* will examine how, in an age of increasing polarisation, we can find ways to disagree while still achieving common ground. Tickets: £6 full price – £4 concession. For more information and to book, visit: <http://bit.ly/YAS-FOP-Responsible-debate>

Fellows Deceased

It is with much regret that we report the deaths of Professor Keith **Smith**; Professor Alexander (Sandy) Grant **Fitzgerald**; Professor Keith Gilbert **Robbins**; Lord Robert Bruce **Balfour of Burleigh**; and Professor John **MacQueen**. 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@these.org.uk.

RSE Grants and Research Awards currently open:

- **Sabbatical Research Grant** – Closing date: Monday 14 October 2019.
For further details, visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/rse-sabbatical-research-grants/
- **Enterprise Fellowships** – Closing date: Friday 1 November 2019.
For further details, visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/enterprise-fellowships/
- **Grants for Fellows and Members of YAS**. Deadline 5 pm, Friday 29 November 2019.
For further details visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/grants-for-fellows

Fellows' Morning Discussion Meetings

Coffee is available in the Fellows' Room on Tuesdays at 10.30 am. Once a month, between October 2019 and March 2020, there will be a discussion meeting, normally in the Scott Room, introduced by an invited speaker.

5 November 2019	Professor Neil Mabbott	<i>Should we care any more about BSE and other prion diseases?</i>
3 December 2019	General Robert Baxter CBE	<i>Command, Information and War</i>
7 January 2019	Professor Dame Anne Glover FRS PRSE	<i>Could Scotland thrive without a national academy?*</i>
4 February 2020	Dr Victoria Crowe OBE RSA FRSE	<i>tbc</i>
3 March 2020	Professor Petra Wend FRSE	<i>The changing face of higher education: how can universities meet the challenge and what are their roles?</i>

*The talk on 7 January will be live streamed to a venue in Glasgow. For more information or to register, please contact Ashleigh Thow – athow@therse.org.uk

Policy Advice

- On Friday 6 September, the RSE hosted an event at which Kate Forbes MSP, Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy, set out the Scottish Government's plans for developing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy for Scotland. We are pleased that the Scottish Government has accepted this key recommendation from joint work by RSE, the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Scotland IS and BT Scotland. The RSE is now developing plans for a programme of activity on AI.
- An RSE working group chaired by Professor Graham Watt FRSE responded to the Scottish Parliament Health and Sport Committee's Inquiry into the Future of Primary Care: www.rse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AP19-10.pdf
- Working with partners, including Scotland Europa, Scottish Funding Council, Universities Scotland and Scottish Government, the RSE has contributed to a Scotland-wide response to the European Commission on the strategic priorities for Horizon Europe, the next EU research and innovation Framework Programme: <https://portal.scotlandeuropa.com/file/download?id=2925>
- The RSE has contributed to recent debates in the Scottish Parliament on intergovernmental arrangements and common frameworks, and on the Scottish National Investment Bank.

Events for the public

- *Scotland 2030: our future Scotland*. Friday 11 October 2019 at 2 pm at Easterbrook Hall, The Crichton, Dumfries. Panel-led debate chaired by Dame Barbara Kelly FRSE. Presented in conjunction with the Scotland's Futures Forum. For further details and to book, visit: www.rse.org.uk/event/our-future-scotland/
- **Festival of Politics 2019 – Women in Science**. Saturday 12 October 2019, 3–4.30 pm at the Scottish Parliament. In partnership with the Scottish Parliament. A portable version of the RSE's *Women in Science in Scotland* Exhibition will be on display at the Parliament. For further details and to book, visit: www.rse.org.uk/event/women-in-science-festival-of-politics-2019/
- *Hamish Henderson – A New Voice*. Professor Fred Freeman, Professor of Scottish Music, The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Friday 1 November 2019 at 7 pm at the RSE. To book, visit: www.rse.org.uk/event/hamish-henderson-a-new-voice/
- *The Human Rights Idea in the Philosophy of the Scottish Enlightenment*. Dr Bertrand Ramcharan, Acting United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Monday 18 November 2019 at 6 pm. Held jointly with the Council for At-Risk-Academics and the RSE Young Academy of Scotland. For further details and to book, visit: www.rse.org.uk/event/the-human-rights-idea-in-the-philosophy-of-the-scottish-enlightenment/

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/ or contact Martina Hlinkova – mhlinkova@theRSE.org.uk – 0131 240 5034.

Staff news

Best wishes to Graeme Herbert, Director of Programmes, who retires at the end of October. Graeme was seconded to the RSE from the Scottish Executive for 'one year' in October 2000 to 'help run a series of public policy seminars and support the work of the International Committee'. The rest is history!

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 – 0131 240 5019.