



Bulletin

Occasional information for members

Institute of Safety in Technology and Research

**BULLETIN
NO. 57 SEPT
2014**

HEADLINES:

- **AGM & Symposium 2014**
- **ISTR Sponsorship Award**
- **New executive committee**

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Co-ordination, Co-operation and Communication– continued

12th—13th November 2013 Manchester: Autumn Symposia.

In the last Bulletin we heard about day one of the symposium, now we have a report from day two.

81 delegates attended the second day, the 13th November, which was devoted to the theme 'Managing the emergency ? and the key message from the speakers was to plan for the worst foreseeable emergency and should it happen you are well prepared.



Neil Farnell from Glasgow city Council spoke on disaster planning for a city centre incident. In a city a disaster can take many forms but the key is to maintain business continuity. The worst case would be a city centre evacuation and the local authority, led by the police and other emergency services are a

major player, in particular with the recovery phase. Practice and testing of emergency plans will help to aid rapid recovery and maintain business continuity. (Sadly since Neil gave his talk the plans were used to cope with the police helicopter which crashed on the roof of the public house in Glasgow).



Andy Thompson, the Olympic park incident and continuity manager during the 2012 games gave an insight into the huge scale of the building and management of the games. Every aspect of the games was planned in minute detail by a team of managers, starting years ahead. A mountain of risk assessments were produced. Every venue had an incident room manned by the emergency services, linked to a central LOCOG control centre. Every venue had a back-up venue kept secret)

and all the volunteers had to undergo safety training and pass a test before they got their passes. Every aspect was rehearsed and all venues were inspected daily for safety issues. All to good advantage, as the games both during construction and on the day passed off with very few incidents to workers, athletes or the public.



Bernadette Duncan, the chief operating officer of the Association of University Chief security Officers (AUCSO) talked about the city of London University fire, which highlighted the lack of robust plans to cope with emergencies at the University. As a result AUCSO started a project to rectify this, so that all members of the University management would have their roles defined and

Autumn Symposia continued

undergo training in emergency response and recovery



A f -
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lunch **Matt Timblin** from the BBC high risk team talked about sending journalists into high risk situations abroad. For much of the third world the risk of death is considerably higher than normal. Safety is more important than competitive advantage. Hazards can be natural disasters or man-made (riots etc.).

Crisis management must be pre-emptive so risk assessment is crucial. If the risks outweigh the editorial benefit they don't go. Countries are risk reviewed regularly. Communica-

tion back to base is vital so that contingency plans can be enacted if situations worsen. As with all emergencies, post event analysis is carried out to learn the lessons.

The day was completed with a



comprehensive account by **Glen Hardcastle** of Aurora of the problems one can encounter when called to carry out an emergency clean up. depending on the hazards found a significant number of regulations need to be considered. Identifying the hazards can be a problem if there are no knowledgeable personnel still employed. It can be a 'Mary Celeste' situation. Hazards

may be historic, been there for years, in the drains? Who pays? the polluter or the owner?

In the aftermath of an incident, it is often possible to take time to assess the extent of the hazards and adopt a careful and systematic approach to dealing with mess.

Article text by David Heath.



ISTR Sponsorship Award — Report from our latest recipient Claire Jones.



I would like to thank the ISTR for a sponsorship award that secured my attendance to deliver an oral presentation at the 4th American Society of Microbiology Conference on Salmonella: The bacterium, the host and the environment held 5 - 9th of October 2013 in Boston (Massachusetts, USA).

I am a postdoctoral scientist working at the Oxford Vaccine Group (Oxford University, UK) where, as part of a dedicated team, I oversee laboratory research related to the host response to Salmonella infection (in particular *Salmonella* Typhi the causative agent of typhoid fever) as well aspects of laboratory biosafety. Typhoid fever is common in resource limited regions of the world where poor sanitation and lack of clean water can spread infection, transmission is normally associated with the faecal-oral route (eating or drinking of contaminated food/water). Typhoid fever is estimated to affect 26.9 million people per year, it is a human restricted pathogen for which we have no specific or reliable diagnostic test and we are in desperate need of an effective vaccine.

The meeting was dedicated entirely to Salmonella research (very rare to have a meeting devoted to a single bug) with a focus on infections, public health and translational approaches to improve diagnosis, treatment and prevention. It was an international conference bringing together leading Salmonella investigators, alongside students and postdoctoral scientists, in a forum by which to present and discuss their research.

The opening address highlighted new advances in vaccine research and recent evolutionary signatures in Salmonella enteric respectively, setting the scene for an intense and packed program over the course of four consecutive days. The sessions of particular interest to my work included discussion on the public health

challenge of Salmonella infections, the rise and prevalence of antimicrobial resistant strains, the lack of early diagnostics and next generation vaccines against enteric fever (e.g. typhoid and paratyphoid fever).

Each scientific session incorporated a networking lunch and poster session providing the opportunity for delegates of all ages and experience to discuss their latest work and future challenges. The conference had a relaxed and interactive focus prompting informal discussions and promoting the establishment of collaborative networks.

The program itself was a forum for delegates to report their research and an opportunity to discuss their work by successfully interweaving plenary talks with poster talks delivered by both graduate students and postdoctoral scientists.

The interactive conference was a great occasion to meet and discuss my research with leading researchers. Discussing biosafety level work with both scientists and clinicians is extremely rewarding and provides a great opportunity to reflect on how procedures involving microorganisms are performed in different laboratories and indeed different countries.

I established several new collaborations during the meeting while also nurturing a few existing ones. I gained significant insight into the world of Salmonella, expanded my research knowledge and I was able to share this experience with both colleagues and friends on my return.

Thank you to the ISTR for your support and the opportunity to present my work at an educational meeting.



Web link to the conference proceedings
<http://conferences.asm.org/images/2013-10-05.pdf>

Claire Jones
(Oxford Vaccine Group, Oxford University, UK)

2014 Summer AGM and Symposium

After the Accident– Getting it Right

Clare College, University of Cambridge 1st and 2nd July 2014

The meeting began on Tuesday July 1st with registration at Clare College before we headed off through the bustling streets of Cambridge to visit the Fitzwilliam Museum.



The Museum Assistant Director, **Kate Carreno** welcomed us with a fascinating talk about the museum and gave us an insight into the collections and the challenges of maintaining a public facing facility, whilst protecting the unique artefacts. Alison Kingsbury, Facilities Manager, then told us about the extensive refurbishment that the museum has recently undertaken, some of which we were given the chance to see on our tour. We also visited two of the departments working behind the scenes to conserve and study the collections and were able to talk to the staff working on fascinating artefacts such as Egyptian mummies and priceless manuscripts. We returned to historic Clare College for some welcome refreshments in the garden



room before the main business of the day, the ISTR AGM.

After the AGM we were treated to a fantastic Dinner in Clare College with an entertaining after dinner address given by **Dr Martin Vinnell**, Director of Health and Safety at Cambridge University.

The networking continued after dinner in the College bar. Mark Hoare has recorded the day's events in pictures all posted on the ISTR website members area at <http://www.istr.org.uk/>.



On Wednesday July 2nd the Symposium registration took place. Our events secretary, David Heath ensured that all delegates received a free gift of a USB drive containing all of the day's presentations and additional reference material. For those of you who could not attend, all of the presentations and pictures from the event can be found on the ISTR website at <http://www.istr.org.uk/>.

Eileen Tully introduced the Symposium and the morning sessions was chaired by June Freeland. The Symposium Opening Address was given by Professor Duncan Maskell, Head of School of Biological Sciences, who welcomed ISTR to Cambridge and Clare College. The College was founded in 1326 by Lady Elizabeth De Clare (granddaughter of Edward I). Professor Maskell enlightened us on some more humorous H&S anecdotes from his time at Cambridge; he then talked about the history of H&S legislation and his experiences (good and bad!) during his career. He emphasised the importance of good leadership in maintaining a good H&S culture and the challenges of maintaining best practice in H&S management whilst allowing scientific research to progress.

Our Honorary Secretary, **Dr Arthur Mitchell** was the first speaker. Arthur is responsible for safety, security and resilience at the Medical Research Council. His presentation on **'Accident Investigation - by the book'** was thought-provoking and began with some quotes on accidents to make us think about why we deal with them. He went on to show definitions of the term 'accident' from different organisations and then led us through the process of accident investigation. The event, consequences, the immediate aftermath, the response (main players, grab bag?), the Investigation (who, when, how?), identifying risk control

Summer AGM and Symposium

Report by David Heath,

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measures and root causes, report writing and dissemination and implementing recommendations.



Arthur was followed by an entertaining interactive drama performed and facilitated by

Shaun Curry and **Harry Gallagher** from the '2Macs' (Macnaughton Macgregor) training group on 'The accident and the aftermath'. Harry gave us an introduction on their work with the oil and gas industry across the globe to implement culture change in a range of settings. The delegates were treated to a lively session showing us how humans behave in pressure situations so we can try to understand how people might react in an accident situation. Drama techniques were used to get the message across. Shaun told us that 693 people died in 2012/13 falling down stairs and gave examples of how we do and don't intervene in situations and the reasons why. The fictional scenario was based on a paint company with two characters, an engineering manager, and an engineer and safety rep. The drama was interspersed with thought-provoking discussions on how we deal with and can prevent incidents using time-reversal techniques and interaction with the actors to revisit the

fictional situation to see if different actions could change the outcome of the incident. The delegates joined in enthusiastically asking questions of the actors and were thoroughly entertained. The presentation ended with an archive clip from candid camera on how easily we can influence other's behaviour in a positive way.

After coffee we heard from **Mark Tyler** (Salutaris) on 'Accident reports and legal privilege - what not to include'. Mark is a solicitor in the senior courts in England and Wales and is a leading practitioner in H&S law. He gave us an outline of the legal profession in H&S management and then went on to look at 'operational' accident investigations and the investigator's dilemmas in conducting them.

Mark reminded us that there are many stakeholders affected by the investigation into an incident with very different viewpoints. Under RIDDOR, there is no general legal obligation to investigate accidents. Obligations may arise indirectly; e.g. insurance reporting requirements, industry regulatory rules and local policies and procedures. Mark looked at UK guidance on accident investigation from a lawyer's perspective. We had some examples of getting it wrong (Buncefield) in terms of the legal wrangling over

what documents are disclosed. We were advised against preparing a 'one size fits all' report and to clearly identify the dominant purpose of each document, so there may need to be more than one report e.g. one for legal advice and another for operational reasons. We were advised on basic techniques for writing accident reports. It is important to keep reports factual and avoid unnecessary adverbs/adjectives. Mark's final point was to remember legal advice privilege in sending draft documents for legal advice. This was followed by a lively discussion and a question/answer session with all of the speakers from the morning session before heading off for a delicious lunch in the sunshine.

The afternoon session was chaired by Jayne Thomas. **Nick Marsh** was the first speaker with a presentation on 'Accident aftermath - the inspector calls'. Nick is an HSE inspector leading on High Hazard sector of the HSE. Nick gave us a background on his career in the HSE as a construction inspector and more recently in a hazardous installation inspectorate. He then went onto outline the HSE code of conduct and enforcement policy statement and management models.



Summer AGM and Symposium

After the Accident—Getting it Right University of Cambridge



Nick gave some examples of cases where HSE may decide not to investigate whilst remaining within the requirements of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act (1996). He outlined the HSE process for their investigations including identifying the immediate, underlying and root causes of incidents. His key message was 'investigate, don't blame'. He outlined the role of the HSE inspector at the scene and during post-accident investigations. Nick reminded us of the powers of inspectors under s20 HSWA. He also mentioned the FOI implications of retaining documents or copies of documents for evidence and how the FFI changes might influence how documents are released to HSE. He explained that simulation of incidents is an important tool in investigation as is identification of duty holders. The presentation ended with an overview of the enforcement management model and some useful references (available on the ISTR members' area webpage).



Nick Marsh was followed by **John Bamford** who gave a Trade Union perspective with a presentation on **'Union representatives - how can they help post-accident?'** John shared his experiences as an UCU lead H&S advisor, Hazards campaigner and former coal miner. He shared his experiences of safety and incidents during his career as a coal

miner and workman's inspector in the 1960s. John outlined a brief history of worker involvement in H&S since the 1872 Coal Miners Act. He went on to detail the requirements of the safety reps and safety committee regulations and other acts dealing with worker representation.

The final session looked at three different case studies on how organisations recover after an incident, the impact it had on others and what was done to enable work to continue and prevent a recurrence. These case studies were presented by **Catherine Davidge** (Manchester University), **Lee Simmons** (Surrey University) and **David Kinnison** (Southampton University)



Catherine spoke about the impact of a small reaction explosion in a multidisciplinary facility at Manchester University and

described the implementation of the recommendations from the incident investigation at three different levels - the Principal Investigator, Research Institute and Central Safety Services.

Secondly, Lee gave a very clear presentation about the downstream impact on people, processes and publicity of a potential release of a pathogen in a CL 3 Facility. This led to the introduc-

tion of a Competency Matrix for lab managers, researchers and students which is used to detail who is competent to instruct and train users in General Standard and Specific Operating Procedures.



The session and symposium concluded with a presentation from David on the loss of a

major science building had had on Southampton University. David highlighted the work of the Business Continuity Team, the impact on the University, neighbourhood and HE sector, and the timescale and route taken to rebuild the facility." The day ended with a summary discussion. Thanks to all who contributed and attended and look forward to doing it again next year in Liverpool!

Ann Diment CFIOSH, MISTR, MIIRSM

Catherine Davidge CMIOSH, MISTR

An Adventurer's Blog

ISTR Immediate Past Chair, Jayne Thomas is back on 'Terra Ferma' and reports on her adventures on the high seas

I've heard it said that we should enjoy the planning for major events in our lives such as weddings and holidays, because the event itself will be over very quickly once started – well, that was most definitely true for my participation in the Clipper Round The World Yacht Race earlier this year! I originally signed up to the race way back in 2011 and then it seemed like such a long way in the future, now I cannot believe it is all over!

I joined the race in January in Brisbane, Eastern Australia. Whilst those of you in the UK were suffering deluges of rainfall I was enjoying the glorious summer of the Gold Coast, after a very pleasant few days exploring the area I greeted the yachts arrival into Brisbane at around 2 in the morning – it remains a yacht racing mystery as to why the arrivals are invariably in the middle of the night – but having travelled literally half way around the globe I was not about to miss it!

As I was to learn over the next 4 months port stop overs in the race are generally frantic! There is a list of tasks that are essential. Deep clean the boat, absolutely necessary after any extended period at sea, despite the daily cleaning routine that takes place on the water! Service all serviceable parts - most especially winches of which there are 11, each one coming apart into hundreds of bearings that require washing in non-salty water and lightly oiling before being put back together into precisely the right order. Repairing sails, even with careful handling the weather and the environment takes a toll on the sail cloth and every crew is responsible for keeping its sails in order – there are stiff penalty points for those that require professional repairs or, dare I say the word, replacement. Then there is shopping or to use



the correct terminology, victualing... Next time you are feeling uninspired about having to stock up

spare a though for our shopping list, out of Brisbane we were to be a crew of 16, we expected to be at sea for 5 weeks and have to carry emergency rations for 5 days that is 40 days X 16 crew which is food for 640 days; oh yes and every crew member requires between 4 and 6000 calories a day while racing. It was usual for us to fill up to 10 shopping trolleys! Once purchased the food was sorted and packed into 40 day bags which then needed to be stowed around the yacht.

We finally got everything in order, everything stowed and were ready for the start of the next leg – a race to Singapore.

This was an interesting one, the key message from our pre-race crew brief was



'action to be taken in the event of attack by pirates'. Race day dawned bright and sunny (of course) and though little wind in port once we ventured out to the start line a short distance out of Brisbane the breeze was up and conditions were excellent. On this occasion we had a 'Le Mans' start which is basically all 12 yachts lining up with no sails and no engine, as the start is called the race is on to be first to raise sails and pull away, thanks to much practise and carefully choreographed drills we got away to an excellent start. We held our lead for several days and earned some bonus points for doing so but as is the way with fickle winds and tides a change of fortune saw us slip a little way down the fleet. Within a week I had settled into the routine of life on-board, 4 hours on watch and 4 hours off through the night followed by 6 on and 6 off during the day. Oh how I came to look forward to the 6 hours off! Mostly I loved the night watches, especially when it was warm and the breeze was taking us in the direction we wanted, but of course that wasn't how it was all the time!

Of the trip overall I have of course many memories, a

An Adventurer's Blog contd....

vague disappointment at the lack of wildlife we saw, though dolphins never fail to bring a smile and I was delighted on the morning of my birthday to have a school swim along beside us as if to bring me a personal message; the beauty of sunsets and sunrises that never seem lose their attraction no matter how many times you watch them; the noise of a storm; the busy shipping channels of Singapore Straits; so much rubbish in the oceans; the constant battering of waves crashing across the decks so that I thought I would never be dry again; the amazing human capacity to help one another through the tough times, we all had ups and downs, quiet days and times when we wanted space or missed home and whenever one was struggling another was there to help keep mind and soul together, I made some real friends of people I had previously not known. Our arrival into Qingdao, the Olympic sailing city on the East coast of China was totally awesome. We came in second for this leg, though every yacht received the same welcome of drums and dancers, TV and press photographers – I never felt so much like a celebrity in my life and I doubt I ever will again!

The final leg of my race was across the mighty Pacific Ocean, now in the Northern hemisphere we were back in winter conditions, it was cold and we expected the 4 weeks at sea to be a challenge. We sailed out of China, across the Yellow Sea (and believe it or not, it really is yellow!) around Japan and into the fury that can be the Pacific. It was a tough time and challenged everyone on board, the rough weather didn't let up for days at a time; now we were constantly wet and cold! Thank goodness for a warm sleeping bag on a dry bunk – its hard to believe how appealing that thought was at times and how it kept me going on through a tough watch. Occasionally the wind would ease just a little and I would gaze around at the great rolling waves that were all around us, the absolute stunning wild beauty of an ocean in all its glory. So powerful. Majestic. And then a weather front would drive another storm across us and time to wonder at the beauty of it all was a luxury we

could not afford as we battled to change sails in 50 knots winds, even steering the boat was often only possible for 20 – 30 minutes at a time because the effort required in those conditions was extreme. It was hard, there were times when I wondered why I had wanted to be there so much and then it was almost over and the Golden Gate Bridge appeared out of the morning mist (yes, we actually arrived in San Francisco in day light!) and my race was finished. And I wished I was back there and realised that despite not liking some of it, I had loved every moment.

The race finally ended in London in July and I was there with many others to welcome the fleet home. Derry Londonderry Doire came in 4th overall, we were proud of that place because we have been part of it and we knew we had done the best that we could do.

Jayne Thomas.

Election of Fellows at the AGM

We are pleased to announce that at the AGM, the following members were elected as Fellows:

Pete Jewell: Pete served ISTR for many years as an executive committee member and is now enjoying retirement from his long and successful career in academia. He could not attend the AGM to receive his award in person.

Julia Cotton: Julia was an invaluable part of the executive committee providing humour and expertise at meetings as well as being the editor of this prestigious publication for several years! As the new Editor I appreciate how much work she put into it and hope we can maintain her impeccable standards. Sadly Julia could not attend the AGM to receive her award in person.

June Freeland:

June stepped down from the Executive committee after over four years service and success in leading the way in setting up the UK Nanosafety group on which she represented ISTR. On the executive committee, her broad range of contacts and commercial know-how have been of great benefit in sourcing and organising speakers and trade exhibitors for ISTR symposia. June was presented her award at the AGM.



Jayne Thomas.

Jayne has served ISTR for many years on the executive committee and just finished a very successful term as Chair. The picture right shows the presentation of her award by her successor as Chair, Eileen Tully.



Changing Times: a Fond Farewell and 'Thank you' to our Executive committee members.

It is with much regret that the Executive say 'au revoir' to Mark Cheshire, June Freeland and Julia Cotton, three stalwarts of the ISTR Executive Committee.

A member of ISTR (formerly IUSO) since it's foundation in 1981, **Mark Cheshire** joined the Executive Committee in 2000. He took on the role of Membership Secretary in 2001 and fulfilled that role (with a short break in 2005-07) until earlier this year. Mark has made an immense contribution to the development and efficient management of ISTR over the past 14 years. In particular his stewardship of the membership database and his Trojan work in annual membership subscription invoicing and follow up reminders has ensured that ISTR has been very successful in retaining existing members and attracting new members to the fold. In his earlier committee years, Mark was also Editor of the ISTR Bulletin. Mark has recently taken up residence in the Scilly Isles – no doubt the health and safety issues he encounters in that environment will be somewhat different to the research and technology sector! ISTR will miss his steady hand and guidance. The ISTR Executive Committee and the membership owe him a massive vote of thanks for his tireless work on our behalf. Thank you Mark!



June Freeland joined the Committee in 2010 – her work in driving the nanotechnology safety agenda in the UK is admired and appreciated by all. On the executive committee, her broad range of contacts and commercial know how have been of great benefit in sourcing and organising speakers and trade exhibitors for ISTR symposia. June is retiring (early!) from the University of Strathclyde and has decided not to seek

re-election to the Executive at our AGM in July. Her wise counsel and input at Committee meetings will be missed by all. We wish her all the best with her future plans.

Julia Cotton (committee member since 2010) steps down this year also. On joining Exec she was very quickly volunteered (!) to take on the role of Editor of the ISTR Bulletin. In that time she has consistently delivered a very interesting, professionally produced, quality newsletter to keep our members up to date on all aspects of ISTR activity. The volume of work involved in delivering the Bulletin cannot be underestimated we are indebted to Julia for her efforts on behalf of ISTR. In addition Julia's quietly delivered, reflective inputs into committee meetings (often providing much needed insight and clarity!) were greatly appreciated by all. Again, we wish Julia all the best in the future.



Mark and June (though not Julia unfortunately) attended the ISTR AGM & Symposium in Cambridge so we raised a glass to them and said 'fare thee well' in person!



Biosafety Steering Group (BSG) news

The Biosafety steering group has been as busy as ever, and our Biosafety liaison Jillian Deans has provided a brief update for our members on their hard work since the last edition of the Bulletin.

·Succession planning – Louise Cupitt will take over from Ann Hallam on the group. This means that we need new representatives to volunteer from the Southern and Northern BSO groups – any volunteers?

·Conference planning – The group has now finalised the speaker programme for Day 1 of the ISTR Autumn symposium and the theme this year will be: 'Back to basics in a changing world'. Presentations secured so far include an update from HSE, and speakers from the HSL and Diamond Light Source amongst others, so watch out for booking details in the next few weeks.

·The Biosafety Steering Group, in consultation with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and with input from the UK biosafety community (via the regional BSO network), has prepared guidance to supplement the official HSE guide to the GMO (CU) Regulations 2014. The guidance looks specifically at the issue of significant change as experience has shown that the interpretation of what is meant by a significant

change i.e. where the risk(s) of the notified activity have changed has presented challenges to the biosafety community. So to help guide the decision making process, the biosafety community have provided a number of examples of actual changes to genetic modification activities from their organisations that were deemed significant (and in some cases not significant). The guidance will be made available (on the ISTR website) at the same time as the new regulations come into force on the 1st October and will be formally launched at this year's Autumn symposium.

BSP Scheme update: Since July 2013 we now have

- o BSP 1 – 13 new BSP1 (80 in total)
- o BSP 2 - 5 new BSP2 (18 in total). Failed one candidate. 2 have decided not to resubmit following requests for additional information.

·Scheme administration – The BSP scheme has a new (temporary) administrator pending appointing a more permanent successor. The administrator is in the process of tidying up/simplifying administrative procedures for the scheme and application/assessment. A number of new BSP2 assessors have now been appointed, and the group will be looking at formalising the arrangements for CPD over the coming year for those who have completed the BSP2 level.

Jillian Deans

About the ISTR Biosafety Accreditation Scheme



ISTR has established standards of competency for the UK biosafety community. ISTR approves the registration of Biosafety Practitioners at Level 1 (Foundation) and at Level 2 (Professional), assesses portfolios submitted and holds the register of successful applicants. In addition, ISTR accredits the providers of Level 1 courses.

Benefits of the scheme

The scheme supports career development for those that seek to progress in the field of biological safety. **PLEASE NOTE: application for the BSP scheme is completely separate from application for ISTR membership and completion of a qualification for a BSP does not automatically qualify you for ISTR membership, all applications for this are assessed separately by the Executive committee.**

Level 1 Biosafety Practitioner is based on an ISTR accredited training course that is comprehensive and structured to meet a range of competency requirements. Those that complete and pass the course and have **2 years relevant experience in biosafety** are eligible to be registered **Biosafety Practitioners**.

Level 2 Biosafety Professional provides the platform for the professional recognition of those who work full time in the field. Candidates must prepare a portfolio that covers their work in biosafety over a five year period and submit this to ISTR for assessment. CPD is an integral part of the scheme. Biosafety Professionals can use the letters **BSP**. Registered Biosafety Professionals are expected to enrol on the **Continuous Professional Development Scheme (CPD)**.

Apply for a £1000 sponsorship: travel and attendance at workshops and symposia

The Sponsorship Scheme was initiated by the ISTR Executive in 2009 for a 3 year period. In 2012 it was extended for another three years to run until 31 August 2015. The scheme is aimed to assist ISTR Members and Associates attend conferences, symposia or workshops that would benefit their careers. A fund of £1000 per annum is available.

Eligibility and application

The sponsorship scheme is primarily (but not exclusively), for ISTR members and associates in relatively junior roles. Applicants should submit a short abstract detailing their position, place of work and reason for applying for sponsorship. Each application should contain two supporting nominees who must be full ISTR members.

Applications should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary, istr-secretary@istr.org.uk. The decision of the ISTR Executive Committee on any sponsorship application will be final.

Successful applicants are expected to produce a short report to the Executive Committee on the conference, symposia or workshop they attended which will be published in the ISTR Bulletin.

All you need to do is submit the following information to the Honorary Secretary istr-secretary@istr.org.uk

1. Your name:
2. Position in organisation:
3. Employer:
4. How long in post:
5. Reason for application (e.g. Travel/Accommodation/Training):
6. Location of venue:
7. Date (s) of venue:
8. Cost of travel/accommodation/attendance:
9. ISTR Nominee 1
10. ISTR Nominee 2



Membership News



Are you 'Linked-In' to our ISTR discussion group yet?

Your hard working executive committee are always looking for ways to communicate with you as members.

Through the ISTR website (www.istr.org.uk), and email distribution lists they are already doing a sterling job getting information out to you on the courses and meetings they are organising, but we are always looking for new and up to date ways of keeping in touch.

Many of our members will already be using social media, and whilst for some of us technophobes the choice and mystery of these technologies may be bewildering, we need to ensure that we use the available formats to maximise the networking and professional development opportunities that membership of ISTR can afford.

To this end, we have setup a group on Linked-In, which is the world's largest professional network with 300 million members in over 200 countries and territories around the globe. Linked-in members get access to people, jobs, news, updates, and insights that help you be great at what you do.

The posts will be linked with the ISTR website and other messages posted to you as members, but crucially it allows you as members to contribute posts and suggestions without clogging up our already bulging mail inboxes and also allow you to have interactive discussions with people who choose to link to the site, so no more complaints about cross-posting or 'replies to all' on the email distribution lists!

The group posts are moderated by executive committee members, and it is another platform where members can ask questions, communicate information and interact with the executive committee.

So please look us up on www.linkedin.com, look under 'groups' for ISTR, and join our community.

Ann Diment CFIOSH, MISTR, MIIRSM

Executive committee member.

ISTR Award

for Outstanding Contribution
to Safety in Technology and Research

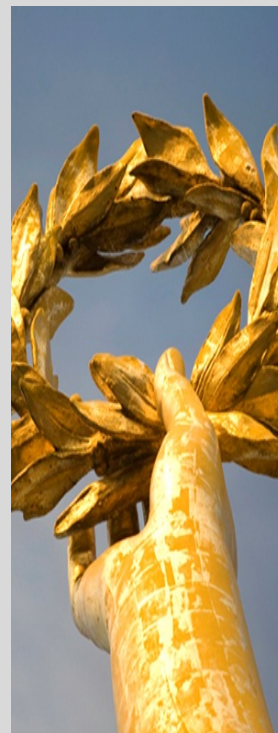
This award is given in recognition of the effort and success of a named member who has, in the view of the Executive Committee, made a significant contribution to safety in the field of technology, science or research through a publication, scheme, device, campaign, training material or other means.

The award will comprise of a plaque and a small monetary award agreed by the Executive from the Institute's funds.

The award will be presented to any or all of the nominees that the Executive considers meet the criteria at the AGM following nomination. An individual member or a group of the membership can make nominations.

If no nominations are forthcoming for any particular year, or if the committee feels that no nomination has met the criteria then no award will be made that year. So get your thinking caps on and nominate a fellow member and celebrate their successes!

Full details are available on the **ISTR website** www.istr.org.uk



ISTR Executive Committee 2014—2015

OFFICERS

Chair: *Ms Eileen Tully* [3 years from 2014] Dublin City University

eileen.tully@dcu.ie

Vice Chair: tbc

Immediate past chair:

Mrs Jayne Thomas

GS Safety

j_p_thomas@hotmail.com

Secretary: *Dr A R Mitchell*

[1 year from 2014]

MRC, Swindon

istr-secretary@istr.org.uk

Treasurer: *Dr Phil J Baillie* [1 year from 2014]

London Metropolitan University

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ELECTED MEMBERS

Miss Catherine G Davidge [2 years from 2013]

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Ms Jillian Deans (2 years from 2014)

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Mrs. Ann Diment [2 years from 2013]

(+**Bulletin Editor, Exhibitor manager**)

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Mr Mark Hoare [2 years from 2014] (+ **Website Editor**)

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CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Membership Secretary

Mr Mark Elsdon [1 year from 2014]

[istr-](mailto:istr-membershipsecretary@istr.org.uk)

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Events Co-ordinator

Mr David Heath [1 year from 2014]

heath410@btinternet.com



Make your views count with

The current consultation documents on the HSE's website may be of interest to you. If you want to know more or to participate, go to this web link:

www.hse.gov.uk/consult/live.htm

The HSE tries to make its consultation procedure as thorough and open as possible. Responses to consultations and discussions will be lodged in the Health and Safety Executive's [information centres](#)[1][2] for a period of three years after the close of the consultation period where they can be inspected by members of the public or be copied to them on payment of the appropriate fee to cover costs.



Dates for the Diary

*2014 ISTR Autumn Symposium

19th & 20th November 2014

Day 1: Biosafety– Back to basics in a changing world

Day 2: Legal update and Spill management

Venue: Manchester Conference Centre

*ISTR Spring Skills Workshop—Spill management.

Venue (s) and date (s) tbc

*2015 ISTR AGM and Summer Symposium

30th June– 1st July 2015

Venue: Liverpool– Theme : Machinery & PUWER



Although he retired over 20 years ago, some of you may have fond memories of Dick Bush who was Director of the Safety Unit at the University of Birmingham. He was also a Chair of USHA (then USA) and a strong supporter of AURPO and ISTR. He hosted a number of seminars and conferences at Birmingham which you may remember.

Sadly, Dick passed away in May. If you have any messages or memories that you would like to share then the exec team will happily pass them on to his family.

STOP PRESS!

Are you up to date?

Please let our membership secretary know if your details change .

Contact istr-membershipsecretary@istr.org.uk

General enquiries about the Institute should be

addressed to the Honorary Secretary: istr-secretary@istr.org.uk

Enquiries about **membership** should be addressed to the Membership Secretary:

istr-membershipsecretary@istr.org.uk



Institute of Safety in
Technology and Research

The aims of the Institute include:

- the advancement of safety skills and knowledge among its membership via workshops and symposia;
- the maintenance of the professional standards of its membership;
- the promotion of communication and exchange of information within the membership;
- maintenance of dialogue with other professional bodies in areas of related interest.

ISTR members work in universities, research councils, public and private research institutes, and commercial research and high technology companies.

In addition to the Member grade for safety professionals, Associate membership is also available to anyone whose knowledge and experience do not qualify them as Members but who can show they have a sufficient interest in the activities of ISTR.

See www.istr.org.uk for further details or to contact the Editor istr-bulletin@istr.org.uk

The ISTR Bulletin is the occasional newsletter of the Institute and normally published twice a year. Current and past issues of The ISTR Bulletin are held on the member's only section of the ISTR web site: www.istr.org.uk/members/cmем.shtml