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### **“Campaign for Science and Engineering reaches 25 Years”**

The Campaign for Science and Engineering last night celebrated reaching its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by looking ahead to the next 25 years of science and engineering policy.

The 13<sup>th</sup> of January 1986 saw the publication in the Times of an advert, paid for by 1,500 scientists, calling on the government to ‘Save British Science’, leading to the birth of a campaign group. Save British Science changed its name to CaSE in 2005.

CaSE marked the event by holding a reception where it challenged leading figures in the community to set out what they thought the major policy issues of the next 25 years would be. The crowd of 150 people was addressed by **David Willetts MP**, Universities and Science Minister, **Lord May**, former Government Chief Scientist, and **Prof Denis Noble** and **Dr John Mulvey**, co-founders of Save British Science.

#### **CaSE Director Imran Khan said:**

“It’s been a great opportunity to reflect on the magnitude of what Save British Science’s founders achieved back in 1986, to take stock of what’s been achieved, but also to look ahead.”

“There are plenty of science and engineering issues in funding, education, the economy, and government that we need to campaign on, and we’re going to work with the rest of the science and engineering community to achieve those aims.”

“What unites CaSE’s supporters is a belief that the UK depends on politicians and policy-makers taking science and engineering far more seriously than they currently do at present.”

The event was sponsored and hosted by the Institution of Engineering and Technology, with additional sponsorship from Nature.

#### **Paul Davies, Head of Policy for the Institution of Engineering and Technology said:**

“The IET congratulates CaSE on its 25th Anniversary. With the UK facing a myriad of serious issues, from climate change to economic stability, the need to for engineering and science to have an active voice in public policy has never been so important.”

CaSE identified the long-term challenges in science and engineering policy going forward as greater **investment in research and development**, a better **environment for innovation**, stronger **science and engineering education**, getting more **scientists and engineers in Parliament**, and improving **access and diversity in the science sector**.

**ENDS**

**Notes to editors:**

1. CaSE is the leading independent pressure group for the science and engineering sectors in the UK. Find out more at [www.sciencecampaign.org.uk](http://www.sciencecampaign.org.uk) and [blog.sciencecampaign.org.uk](http://blog.sciencecampaign.org.uk)
2. Initial photos of the event are available at CaSE's flickr page: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sciencecampaign/>
3. The history of CaSE, including the details of our original letter in The Times, can be found here: <http://sciencecampaign.org.uk/about/history/index.htm>