

Annual Review

July 2015 to July 2016

In our 30th anniversary year, we are particularly proud of the way CaSE has matured as an organisation. CaSE is held in high regard across Government and the science and engineering communities it serves. It has extended its reach in Parliament, Whitehall and the devolved parliaments, as shown by the frequency with which CaSE is called upon from these quarters to provide input, evidence or advice.

We are proud too that the body of CaSE evidence on which we draw has grown substantially, in quantity, quality and stature. For example, the number of times our report 'The Economic Significance of the UK Science Base' has been cited is truly extraordinary. It has made a powerful impact in underscoring the case for public investment in science and engineering.

The breadth of CaSE membership is unique, including universities, further education, professional institutions, learned societies, charities, businesses and individuals. This breadth enables us to bring together a wide range of perspectives in a unified voice to Government. Over the last year, we have been able to give voice to this community in important political decisions.

During the Spending Review of 2015, CaSE provided a forum in which organisations could coordinate evidence and messages to Government, resulting in a clear argument for the value of public investment in science and a positive settlement.

Our close relationship with Government combined with our independence to speak freely were hugely advantageous during negotiations on the anti-lobbying clause. The clause had the potential to limit the use of the findings of research to inform Government policy-making. CaSE worked hard on behalf of the community to highlight the consequences the clause could have and reach a pragmatic solution.

The voice of CaSE members has been heard in our work on immigration policy, in the devolved nations, and in the EU referendum. We know that our voice has impact because of the outcomes we achieve. CaSE negotiated an exemption to the immigration skills charge for PhD level jobs. CaSE helped win a reprieve of £42m cuts to the Welsh higher education budget. A CaSE survey on the value of European Union membership to UK science and engineering was quoted by the Prime Minister.

With considerable changes afoot, we look forward to working with you to help the voice of science and engineering clearly in Parliament.



Key Wins

Protected the science budget for the next five years

Secured PhD-level exemptions from the Immigration Skills Charge

Negotiated reprieve of Government plans for new 'anti-lobbying' rules

CaSE statistics on science and the EU quoted by the Prime Minister

Reduced the scale of funding cuts by the Welsh Government

Science Minister gave the 30th CaSE Annual Lecture

Professor Graeme Reid
Chair

Dr Sarah Main
Executive Director

Strengthening UK science and engineering

2015 Spending Review

Thanks to vigorous campaigning by CaSE and others in the sector, the Government committed to protecting the £4.7 billion science budget in real terms up to 2019/20.

■ In the run-up to the Spending Review, CaSE organised Opinion Forum events with members and collaborators to help develop a unified, cross-sector approach on key asks. We also published more than thirty articles on our website from the community, highlighting the strength of consensus for investing in science and engineering.

■ CaSE held one-to-one meetings with the Universities and Science Minister, HM Treasury, and the Shadow Science Minister, to argue for long-term investment in the UK science base. CaSE organised a letter to the Business Secretary, signed by past and present Chairs of both the Lords and Commons Science & Technology Committee.

“Congratulations on your effective and responsible campaigning”

Senior BIS official following the outcome of the Spending Review

■ The Deputy Director and Chair appeared before the House of Commons Science & Technology Select Committee science budget inquiry. CaSE was invited to a private meeting with the Committee to establish key mechanisms to increase investment to recommend to the Chancellor. CaSE argued strongly in the media for sustained investment, including BBC News, City AM, The Guardian, and BBC Radio 4.

Government commits to protecting the £4.7 billion science budget in real terms up to 2020

■ Figures from CaSE's 2014 report 'The Economic Significance of the UK Science Base' on the value of public investment in R&D were frequently cited by Government and Parliament over the last year. These include the Commons S&T Committee science budget inquiry, a Westminster Hall debate on science and research, BIS Ministers replying to Parliamentary questions, BIS publications, and HM Treasury's Autumn Statement.

Supporting evidence-based policy-making

CaSE led a successful campaign to halt government plans to introduce a new anti-lobbying clause in government grants. CaSE responded rapidly, raising concerns with the Cabinet Office on behalf of the sector and working with departments across Government to find a pragmatic solution.

“Our motivation is to ensure that government, the research community and the wider public are able to benefit from evidence-informed policy-making”

Joint letter from CaSE and the Campaign for Social Science to the Minister for Government Efficiency and Civil Service Reform, 17th February 2016

Raising the profile of science and engineering in the Devolved Nations

■ CaSE helped secure a reversal by the Welsh Government of their plans to cut the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales' budget by £42m, limiting the cuts to just £11m. Working with Welsh partner organisations, CaSE successfully highlighted the issue with Welsh Assembly Members and the media.

■ Ahead of the May elections, CaSE wrote to the party leaders in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland and we received 13 responses, setting out their party's science and engineering policies

■ We published analysis of the party's science and engineering policies based on manifesto commitments, media activity, speeches, and their letters to CaSE. This work has supported engagement with the new governments and their teams following the election.

Commitments on science and engineering from 13 devolved party leaders

■ CaSE welcomed the appointment in June 2016 of a new Chief Scientific Advisor for Scotland, a post which we campaigned for 18 months to see filled.

Providing analysis in the EU Referendum debate

In December 2015 CaSE and the Engineering Professors' Council published a report examining the role of EU membership in UK science and engineering research. Figures from the report were cited by the Prime Minister in front of the House of Commons Liaison Committee on science and the EU.

"93% of science researchers agreed that EU membership is beneficial to UK science and engineering work"

The then Prime Minister, David Cameron, citing figures from CaSE's EU report, in front of the House of Commons Liaison Committee, May 2016

■ Findings from CaSE's EU report helped inform the Lords S&T Committee report on science and the EU, published in April, and figures from the report were also included in a open letter signed by 5,000 scientists. CaSE's Director spoke about the report's findings at a panel discussion event on science and the EU at the Cheltenham Science Festival.

■ Following the referendum result, CaSE provided responsive analysis on the potential effects of Brexit on UK science and engineering. CaSE's Director appeared before the House of Commons S&T Committee, and our comments featured widely in the media, including ITN News, The Evening Standard, and Channel 4 News.

Producing a high-skilled workforce

In January 2016 CaSE published a new report calling on the Government to improve its immigration policies to maintain the UK's position as a leading global hub of science and engineering. The report was sponsored by Digital Science and launched at a panel discussion event in the House of Lords.

■ Those represented on the panel included the Migration Advisory Committee, the Institution of Chemical Engineers, and the President of the Royal Society. The event was attended by MPs, Peers, CaSE members, and the media.

■ CaSE met with Home Office and BIS officials to discuss the report's findings, and was invited by the Shadow Immigration Minister to inform Labour's immigration policy. CaSE's expertise also featured in a full-page article in *The Evening Standard*, on the need for immigration policy to meet the needs of the STEM sector.

■ CaSE submitted evidence to the Migration Advisory Committee's review of Tier 2 immigration, and met with the Immigration Minister, Home Office and BIS officials after the review's publication, raising concerns over the Immigration Skills Charge and arguing for an exemption for PhD level roles, which the government subsequently implemented.

"The UK's strength is the product of many centuries of research and innovation, which has been helped at every stage by Britain's global reach and openness to the world"

*From the introduction of the 2016 CaSE report,
'Immigration: keeping the UK at the heart of global science and engineering'*

■ CaSE's Director was cited in a House of Commons library paper on the Higher Education and Research Bill, and CaSE organised a workshop for members and collaborators to support coordinated parliamentary engagement.

■ CaSE and University Alliance organised a roundtable meeting with the sector, to help inform the Commons S&T Committee inquiry into digital skills. The roundtable was chaired by the Chair of the Committee and hosted by Google. Recommendations from the meeting were cited in the Committee's report.

■ CaSE's analysis was cited by MPs in debates on the gender pay gap and increasing diversity in STEM careers.

Science Minister giving the 30th CaSE Annual Lecture

The 30th CaSE Annual Lecture was given by the Universities and Science Minister, Jo Johnson MP, to a packed Faraday Lecture Theatre at the Royal Institution.



The Minister took the opportunity in his lecture to highlight the importance of the UK's international research partnerships and the strength of ties with European research partners.

Ahead of the lecture, the Science Minister had an article published in *The Times*, warning that Brexit risked damaging the UK's world-leading science.

CaSE Annual Lecture, given by the Universities and Science Minister, Jo Johnson MP, January 2016.

Political and Sector-Wide Engagement

■ Over the last year CaSE has held regular one-to-one meetings with MPs and Peers. CaSE produced briefings on R&D investment, regional economies, the impact of immigration and the Higher Education and Research Bill, as well as analysis in July 2016 on where the new Prime Minister and Government stand on science and engineering.

■ 35 Parliamentarians signed an Early Day Motion celebrating the 30th anniversary of CaSE, and applauding the importance of the organisation's work.

■ CaSE met with officials from across Whitehall, as well as representatives from the United States, Japanese and Spanish embassies.

■ CaSE held over 130 one-to-one meetings with members, the media and the wider sector.

■ CaSE has taken part in over 80 policy events throughout the year, including a panel discussion we organised with the University of Manchester, as part of the city's 'Year of Science'. CaSE staff have given numerous presentations on science policy and CaSE's work across the UK.



CaSE Annual Lecture, January 2016, (L-R), Prof Graeme Reid (CaSE Chair), Jo Johnson MP (Universities and Science Minister), and Dr Sarah Main (CaSE Director).

CaSE in the Media

CaSE has featured more than 120 times in the media over the last year, including The Times, BBC News, BBC Radio 4, ITN News, Channel 4 News, The Financial Times, Bloomberg News, The Daily Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Wall Street Journal, BuzzFeed, and the Huffington Post, as well as the sector press.

CaSE commented on a wide range of issues, including reform of the UK Research Councils, A-level and GCSE results, the 2016 Spring Budget, the 2015 Spending Review, immigration, the HE White Paper, and CaSE's 30th anniversary.

"The parallels with 1986 are stark. Budgets are being heavily hit and government investment in science continues to fall behind that of rival nations"

CaSE Director writing in The Times, 12th January 2016

"The UK's research relationship with the EU works well. Let's hang on to it for the benefit of both the EU and the UK"

CaSE Chair writing in The Guardian, 12th July 2016

"You just have to look at history to see how much Britain has benefited from science and innovation. We invented the steam engine, created the first vaccine, and discovered graphene"

CaSE Deputy Director writing in City AM, 30th September 2015

Membership

Organisational Membership

Our mandate to speak on behalf of the science and engineering community comes from the breadth of our membership. We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support that our members provide us, through crucial funding as well as helping to shape our work.

In these turbulent political times, we have been delighted to play a pivotal role in ensuring that the voice of science and engineering has been heard throughout. This has involved drawing together people, views and evidence to support the case for UK science and engineering. We are delighted to welcome the below new members over the past year.



Organisational Members

Companies

Airbus Group
Astra Zeneca
BASF
Electroimpact
Facebook
GlaxoSmithKline
Google
Johnson Matthey
NETPark (North East Technology Park)
Rolls-Royce
Wiley-Blackwell

Learned and Professional

Biochemical Society
BMVA – British Machine Vision Association
British Ecological Society
British Pharmacological Society
British Society for Immunology
Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors
Council of Professors and Heads of Computing
Experimental Psychology Society
Institute of Acoustics
Institute of Physics
Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine

Institution of Chemical Engineers
Institution of Mathematics and its Applications
Institution of Mechanical Engineers
London Mathematical Society
Microbiology Society
National Farmers' Union
Prospect
Royal Astronomical Society
Royal Pharmaceutical Society
Royal Society of Biology
Royal Society of Chemistry
Royal Society of Edinburgh
Royal Statistical Society
Society for Applied Microbiology
Society for Experimental Biology
The British Psychological Society
The Genetics Society
The Geological Society
The Institution of Engineering & Technology
The Physiological Society
The UK Deans of Science
Zoological Society of London

Universities and Institutes

Babraham Institute
Brunel University
Canterbury Christ Church University
Cardiff University
City and Islington College
City University London
Durham University
Heriot-Watt University
Imperial College London
John Innes Centre
King's College London
Kingston University
Lancaster University
London Metropolitan University
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Loughborough University
Northumbria University
Plymouth University
Queen Mary, University of London
Queen's University, Belfast
Royal Holloway
Sheffield Hallam University
The Open University
University College London
University of Aberdeen
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Bradford

University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
University of Northampton
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St Andrews
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey
University of Warwick
University of Westminster

Charities

Arthritis Research UK
Association of Medical Research Charities
BRE Trust
British Heart Foundation
Cancer Research UK

Individual Membership

CaSE was founded 30 years ago when a group of concerned individuals joined together in a call to Government to 'Save British Science'. The landscape for science and engineering in the UK may have changed drastically over the decades but the need for a united voice still remains and our individual members are crucial to continuing that.

To engage with the next generation of scientists and engineers, we are offering final year undergraduates one year's free membership of CaSE. Please share this opportunity with your networks, and you can visit our website for more information: <http://bit.do/CaSEstdnt>.

Testimonials

"Since joining CaSE we have not only been able to better present the role of colleges in science and engineering but we have also benefitted from briefings and meeting which allow us to better understand the needs and concerns of the whole community. Membership of CaSE helps to keep us connected and active members of the science and engineering community."

David Swinscoe
Centre Director

Centre for Applied Sciences, City and Islington College

"I value very highly IChemE's membership of CaSE, which plays as important a role in 2016 as it did at its foundation. I see it as essential that the science and engineering community continues to advocate strongly for investment in engineering and science and it the engineers and scientists who will bring new ideas to fruition."

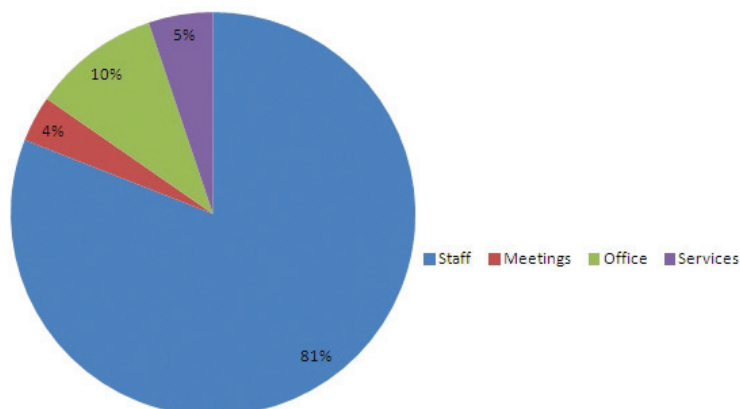
David Brown
Chief Executive

The Institution of Chemical Engineers

Finances

CaSE is a lean organisation which operates with four full-time members of staff and provides exceptional value for money for members. Our income was £219,000 and our expenditure £215,000 for 2015/16.

*CaSE expenditure for 2014/15 —
£215,000*



Our Organisation

Director and Deputy Director

CaSE welcomed back Director Dr Sarah Main from maternity leave in January 2016. Our thanks to Deputy Director Naomi Weir who covered for Sarah as Acting Director.

Policy Adviser and Policy Officer

Our thanks to Dr Martin Turner who worked as Policy Adviser with CaSE on a one-year contract, producing our report on immigration, and to Joanna Scales, who joined CaSE in September on a joint three month Policy Officer internship with the Engineering Professors' Council, producing our report on science, engineering and the EU.

New Membership Manager

Sharleni Inbanathan joined CaSE as the new Membership Engagement and Development Manager in January 2016. Sharleni formerly worked at ACEVO, and she replaces Jenni Lacey, who has taken up a role at Cancer Research UK.

New Board of Directors and Deputy Chair

CaSE welcomed Simon Jennings and Bob Sorrell to the CaSE Board of Directors, as well as Dr Hannah Kerr as the new Deputy Chair. Standing down from the Board were former Deputy Chair Professor Sir Colin Blakemore and Dr Maria-Ana Cataluna, and we thank them for their support of CaSE over the years.

Looking to the Future

As the UK shapes anew its relationship with the world, so we need to ensure that UK science and engineering is not just maintained but flourishes. We have seen considerable change already and no doubt more is to come. CaSE will continue to play to its strengths. We will hold to our values of independence, building trusted relationships and providing robust evidence in our effort to ensure the UK has the funding, people and policies to enable science and engineering to thrive.

Government will have a great deal of impact on science and engineering this year. The Higher Education and Research Bill proposes significant changes to the university and research funding landscape. Negotiations on exiting the European Union will determine policies which underpin how we do research: on migration, regulation, collaboration and funding.

CaSE will continue to gather the views of all its members and distil them into policy proposals for Government. We will build on our relationships with ministers, officials and politicians, as well as our growing relationships with a range of international embassies, to secure the best possible outcomes for the sector.

Meanwhile, CaSE is preparing itself for the future and I look forward to sharing our new strategy with you this year.



CaSE staff, July 2016, (L-R) Dr Sarah Main (Director), Naomi Weir (Deputy Director), Sharleni Inbanathan (Membership Engagement and Development Manager), Nick Hall (Operations and Communications Manager).