



Annual Review

Campaign for
Science &
Engineering
in the UK



Summary of CaSE's activities

July 2008 to June 2009

Over the course of this year, CaSE has more clearly defined its goals and ways of working by developing a five year strategy published in January 2009. We measure our performance against it in the following pages. CaSE has had considerable impact over a range of science and engineering policy issues during the year.

- **Economic impact agenda:** Following meetings with the Treasury and Number 10, CaSE organised a meeting on the economic and social impacts of investment in the research base. A policy report analysing the policy and funding responses to the government's economic agenda was developed from the meeting.
- **Research prioritisation:** CaSE engaged in the policy debate about whether the government should focus research funding by meeting the science minister, giving oral evidence to the Innovation, Universities, Science and Skills Committee and commenting in the media
- **House of Commons' Science and Technology Committee:** Following the creation of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, CaSE wrote to the Leader of the House, commented in the media and briefed MPs about the need to re-establish the Science and Technology Committee. The House of Commons will have a Science and Technology Committee starting in October 2009.
- **Budget 2009:** In the run up to the Budget, CaSE commented in the media, including *The Today Programme*, about the need to invest in science and engineering through the economic downturn in order to compete with other countries who were prioritising R&D in their stimulus packages.
- **Scientific Advice in Government:** Last year CaSE called for the Foreign Secretary to appoint a Chief Scientific Adviser, and this year one was recruited. A long running campaign was won when the First Minister decided to recruit a Chief Scientific Adviser for the Welsh Assembly Government.
- **Science Minister at the Cabinet Table:** CaSE has long argued that the science minister should be at the Cabinet, because science and engineering policies cut across government. This year the Prime Minister made the new Science and Innovation Minister, Lord Drayson, a member of the Cabinet.
- **European Elections:** CaSE received responses from the Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats, UKIP, SNP and Plaid Cymru about their EU science and engineering policies in advance of the election.
- **Scottish Science Policy:** CaSE's director gave a speech on the Scottish Government's Science Strategy. CaSE's concerns about the resourcing of the strategy were raised by MSPs when they debated it.
- **Government Departmental R&D:** Through articles and discussions with policymakers CaSE raised the profile of departmental R&D as an issue, including the need to protect R&D budgets from departmental cuts.
- **International Scientists and Engineers:** An Opinion Forum and report on the topic raised the importance of the UK being able to attract international scientists and engineers. The report was highlighted by MPs in parliamentary debates and in meetings with ministers.
- **STEM Education:** CaSE built upon its long-running campaign on secondary education by developing policy proposals to increase the number and diversity of students taking STEM subjects.

Preparing for a General Election

Over the next year CaSE will be focusing its efforts on making sure that science and engineering are prioritised by political parties in the run up to the general election. We will be working with our members to set out the key policy challenges that all of the main parties will have to respond to in advance of the election.

Thank you for supporting CaSE's work to ensure that science and engineering are high on the political agenda.

Professor Hugh Griffiths FEng
Chairman

Nick Dusic
Director

Set the Science and Engineering Policy Agenda

Science and Engineering Policies

This year CaSE has developed and communicated positions on a range of science and engineering policy issues (see page 1 for the key issues). We will be bringing these positions together into a coherent set of policies in advance of the general election. The key policy areas that we focus on are:

- Machinery of government
- Funding the research base
- Science, engineering & mathematics education
- Government R&D and advisory system
- Environment for corporate investment in R&D

European Elections

This year CaSE challenged all of the main political parties across the UK represented in the European Parliament to set out their EU science and engineering policies. This was the first time that CaSE has done so for the European elections. The EU has an important role to play in science and engineering policy. The key issues highlighted by the main parties included:

- Greater support for investment in research funding, although there was a recognition that framework programmes needed to be improved
- Better links between devolved, national and EU research funding
- Enabling the movement of scientists and engineers across the EU
- More engagement from science and engineering organisations in EU policymaking

Opinion Forum

■ In July 2008, CaSE held an Opinion Forum on International Scientists and Engineers in the UK at the IET with the support of the British Council. Phil Willis MP gave the keynote speech. The other speakers were from the British Council, UUK, RCUK and the Work Foundation.

■ In January 2009, CaSE's Opinion Forum was on the Impact of the Science and Engineering Research Base. The event was held at IBM's London office with the support of the IOP. Speakers were from academia, industry, RCUK and the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills. Discussions during the break out groups helped inform the development of our policy document on the subject.

Speakers at the Impact Opinion Forum (left to right) Professor Philip Esler (RCUK), Dr Graeme Reid (DIUS), Dr Aileen Allsop (AstraZeneca), Professor Sir Christopher Llewellyn Smith (CaSE Advisory Council), Professor Hugh Griffiths (CaSE Chair)

Build Strong Political Networks

Meetings with politicians and policymakers

■ CaSE met with the Science, Higher Education and Education Ministers. We also had meetings with civil servants and advisers at Number 10, Treasury, DCSF, and DIUS/BIS on key issues, including the science budget, government's impact agenda, STEM education and government department R&D.

■ CaSE also met with the shadow Secretary of State for Universities and the Shadow Minister for Science, along with advisers to the Shadow Chancellor. CaSE also met with Liberal Democrat spokespersons on science and universities.

■ CaSE assisted parliamentarians in drafting parliamentary questions and speeches for debates. Notable issues raised were with regard to guidance from government to research councils, meetings between ministers and chief scientific advisers and STEM education statistics.

Network of parliamentarians

■ CaSE was a founder member of the Welsh Assembly's Science and Technology Group, which brings together Assembly Members and external bodies to discuss science and engineering issues in Wales.

Parliamentary inquiries

■ CaSE's director gave oral evidence to the Innovation, Universities, Science and Skills Committees inquiry into "Putting science and engineering at the heart of government policy". CaSE also provided written evidence to their engineering inquiry.

Consultation responses

■ CaSE responded to various consultations, including science and society and higher education.



Provide a Resource on Science and Engineering Policy

Briefings

CaSE produced briefings for parliamentarians covering:

- Scrutiny of science and engineering in the Commons
- Budget 2009
- Scottish Science Strategy
- Report on Science Budget Allocations
- International Scientists & Engineers
- Improving uptake and diversity of students studying STEM subjects

Commenting in the media

■ CaSE had more than 100 mentions in the media during the year, including comments in the *Financial Times*, *the Times*, *the Guardian*, *the Daily Telegraph*, *Science*, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *Times Higher Education*, *Times Educational Supplement*, *Research Fortnight* and the *BBC News* website.

■ Interviews on *BBC News* regarding A-level results and *The Today Programme* on the government's economic impact agenda and the US stimulus funding for science.

■ Articles in *Science in Parliament*, *Research Fortnight*, *Science & Public Affairs*, *Engineering & Technology*, *Chemistry and Industry* and a column in *Lab News*.

■ CaSE's Director gave presentations about science and engineering policy to the Science Strategy for Scotland conference, UK Deans of Science, the Science Council and the Policy Lunchbox group.

CaSE News

CaSE News, which comes out quarterly, has been revamped to be a useful source of news and comment on key developments in science and engineering policy.

CaSE e-bulletin

The e-bulletin has also been developed to be consistent with CaSE's branding and to be more readable. It is now available to anyone interested in science and engineering policy via our website.

Twitter

CaSE is now on twitter, a micro-blogging site. We are using it as a quick and efficient way of getting our messages out to our members and other interested people. Follow us on: www.twitter.com/sciencecampaign

Develop a Broad and Engaged Membership

Shaping our policy agenda

CaSE used the feedback from our annual survey, Opinion Forum meetings and conversations with our members to shape our policy responses during the year.

Bespoke engagement

CaSE has committed to meeting with all of its members in order to refresh and reinforce our relationships. As of July 2009 we are nearly half way through our list. Thank you to those we have met so far and we look forward to further such meetings over the rest of the year. A thoroughly engaged membership will ensure that we continue to receive the best inputs into our policy work.

Broad membership

CaSE welcomed six new organisational members this year:

- Microsoft
- Rolls-Royce
- National Farmers' Union
- School of Pharmacy, University of London
- London Mathematical Society
- Institute for Mathematics and its Applications

CaSE will continue to engage new organisations that want to ensure that the UK is an internationally competitive place to do science and engineering.



Nick Dusic (Director) and Dr Hilary Leever (Assistant Director) outside Number 10 following a meeting with an adviser to the Prime Minister

Organisational Issues

Resourcing

CaSE continues to provide exceptional value-for-money for its members.

■ **Finances:** During the financial year 2008/09 CaSE had £138,575.44 of income and £125,057.07 of expenditure.

■ **Staffing:** The Assistant Director's time has been increased from 2.5 to 3.5 days a week, which brings CaSE staff time to 2.6 FTE. The Director is the only full-time member of staff.

Executive Committee

New members of the CaSE executive committee elected at the Annual General Meeting are:

- Dr Simon Denegri (AMRC)
- Dr John Baruch (University of Bradford)

Advisory Council

Baroness Sharp hosted an Advisory Council dinner in the House of Lords in January to discuss how CaSE should respond to the economic downturn.

Legal Status

At the Annual General Meeting it was agreed that CaSE would change its legal status from a society to a company limited by guarantee. The work to make this happen is ongoing.



CaSE staff - Nick Dusic (Director), David Hawksett (Membership Officer), Dr Hilary Leever (Assistant Director) and Nick Hall (Research and Administrative Assistant)

Organisational Members

Association of Medical Research Charities
AstraZeneca
Biochemical Society
Breast Cancer Campaign
British Ecological Society
British Library
British Pharmacological Society
British Psychological Society
Brunel University
Cardiff University
Deans of Science
Engineering Professors' Council
Experimental Psychology Society
Genetics Society
GlaxoSmithKline
Heads of Chemistry UK
Heriot-Watt University
Imperial College
Institute of Biology
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
Institute of Physics
Institution of Engineering & Technology
Johnson Matthey
Kings College London
Kingston University
Lancaster University

London Mathematical Society
London Metropolitan University
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
London School of Pharmacy
Merck Sharp & Dohme
Microsoft
National Farmers' Union
Norwich Research Park
Ordnance Survey
Pfizer
Physiological Society
Queen Mary, University of London
Queen's University, Belfast
Rolls-Royce
Royal Astronomical Society
Royal Holloway
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
Royal Society of Chemistry
Royal Statistical Society
Sharp Laboratories
Sheffield Hallam University
Society for Experimental Biology
Society for General Microbiology
Syngenta
Unilever
University College London
University of Aberdeen

University of Birmingham
University of Bradford
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Durham
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
University of Newcastle upon Tyne
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St Andrews
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey
University of Ulster
University of Wales, Aberystwyth
University of Warwick
University of Westminster
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Zoological Society of London

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