

Annual Review 2005

Council has recently published its annual report and financial statements for 2005 which will be considered by members at the AGM to be held on 6 July 2006. The full document is available on the members' website and copies can be obtained from the Institute. This review summarises the information contained in the annual report and financial statements. It also contains important information about the 2006 AGM and the matters raised at the 2005 AGM.

Our vision

Our vision is to be the leading international professional body for the advancement of materials, minerals and mining technology to governments, industry, academia, the public and the professions.

Our objectives

Through our activities, we aim to:

- Increase the visibility of our subject area particularly to government and to young people;
- Improve the technical awareness of our community;
- Expand the networking opportunities of our community to external influences such as design and other industries;
- Demonstrate the importance and relevance of our subject area to affect important global issues such as quality of life, wealth creation and the environment.

Our activities

We promote materials, minerals and mining science, engineering and technology by providing:

- A wide range of member services including professional recognition and networking opportunities through 16 technical divisions;
- Information through our website, libraries, conferences, publications and consultancy services;
- An active education programme through schools and universities to attract young people into the profession;
- Support and encouragement to younger members and affiliated societies in the UK and overseas;
- The visibility of new technology to industry with funding from government.

Our plans for 2005

Our plans for 2005 included the expansion of membership through merger, continuing improved financial performance by maximising income from existing activities and maintaining/improving the quality of our services.

Our achievements in 2005

Agreement reached to merge with the Institute of Packaging and the Institute of Clay Technology

Mergers will introduce a further 2800 members and a range of new services to help the professional development of members.

Good financial performance maintained.

Larger conference programme producing excellent technical and financial results.

Major contribution to the DTI funded 'Materials Innovation and Growth' project resulted in important recommendations for the materials and minerals community.

Working with the Royal College of Art and the Design Council, we raised the visibility of new materials innovations to the design community through a series of events supported by the DTI.

Overseas members have been encouraged to establish local groups and these will be funded in much the same way as our 60 UK based local societies.

Plans have been made to accredit more overseas courses in materials with the intention of building stronger links to the international younger members' community.

The Younger Member's Group has actively promoted links to their overseas counterparts and launched the first Younger Members' World Lecture Competition in 2005.

The investment in secure access to our web portal and the customisation of electronic delivery from this site during the year is a key strategy for ongoing development of services to members.

Continuing development of our successful and popular schools activities has led to need for increased resourcing over the next year.

Our disappointments in 2005

The uncertainties of future advanced level studies in schools caused through the debate of the Tomlinson Report has resulted in the Institute not being able to proceed with the materials 'A' level project.

We have been unable to dispose of the lease of the Hallam Court premises and it has been necessary to set aside the expected costs to the expiry of the lease to a specific designated fund.

