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From the President: shaping up for the future

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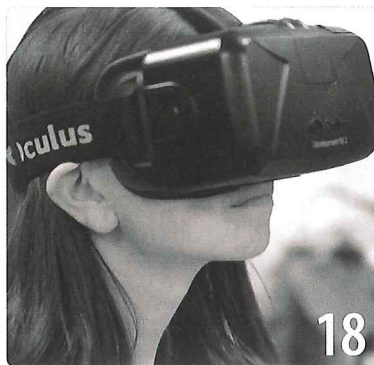
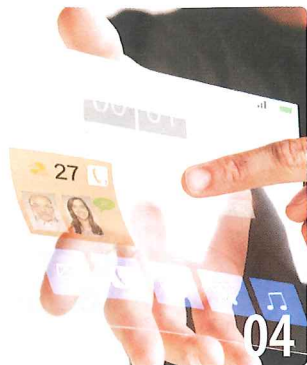
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From the President



Shaping up for the future

Over the past few months the Institute's Executive, Council and staff have been working on several matters of considerable

significance for our future development and direction. Among these have been recruiting a new Chief Executive, developing a five year strategy, planning the launch of the Chartered Institute at the beginning of 2015, and upgrading our office services using a new customer relationship management platform.

Dave O'Neill will be stepping down as Chief Executive at the end of September, having led the Institute since 2007. As an aside, it is fitting that one of Dave's final duties will be to collect the sealed Royal Charter from the House of Lords, having now been informed when this will be available. Dave indicated his intention to retire last year, allowing recruitment of his successor to begin in good time. Wide advertising of the post led to a strong field of applicants and following a rigorous selection process, Steve Barraclough was the successful candidate. Steve joins us from IHS, where he manages a portfolio providing the energy industries with information and intelligence. With Steve's background in oil and gas distribution, regulation, trading and logistics, it is appropriate that one of his first outings as Chief Executive will be the IEHF's Human & Organisational Factors in the Oil, Gas & Chemical Industries conference in Aberdeen in October. I am delighted with Steve's appointment and believe his considerable leadership experience will be a great asset as

we move into the next exciting chapter of the Institute's development.

Turning to strategic planning, a review of the Institute's work over the past five years reveals a good deal of activity and significant achievement. Critical reflection, however, suggests we have not always been as clear as we should about why we are doing some of the things we are doing, nor prioritising, nor evaluating progress and success. The strategic planning exercise engaged in now is aiming to establish with clarity our priorities, looking to where the Institute should be in 2020. The process started earlier this summer with a productive Council/staff away day. As drafting of the plan continues, shortly you will be invited to give your views as part of a wider consultation. Once completed, the intention is to publish the strategy in early 2015, to coincide with the launch of the Chartered Institute (more on this elsewhere).

The change of status of the Institute has given impetus to reviewing the membership packages on offer to members, with a view to enhancing these where possible. This has been constrained previously by the now outdated membership database system underpinning this in the office. Council took the decision in May to invest in a new CRM platform, which should significantly improve communication with members and support greater flexibility. The major task of moving over to the new system is underway.

Roger