

# CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

## IET Elections 2024

ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024 – VICE PRESIDENT

ELECTION TO COUNCIL 2024 – ORDINARY MEMBER

Please read carefully before casting your vote.

# Requirements for Trustees

## Skills, Knowledge and Personal Characteristics

- Leadership
- Strategic Thinking
- Decision Making
- Communicating and Influencing
- Representation and Image
- Business Awareness
- Team Working
- Self Management

## Person Specification

Trustees should be able to demonstrate as many as possible of the following skills:

- Understanding and commitment to the Institution and its objectives.
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship.
- Integrity.
- The ability to make good, independent judgements.
- The ability to develop policy.
- High level strategic thinking and vision.
- Ability to assess performance.
- Ability to think creatively.
- Willingness to speak their mind.
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- Ability to influence, empower and where necessary lead a team.

Trustees need skills and experience in the following areas:

## Essential

- Strategic leadership of a global organisation.
- Governance and non-executive directorship.
- Serving the public interest.
- Strategic planning, and monitoring and evaluating performance in commercial and non-profit organisations.
- Policy development.
- Financial management.
- Risk management.
- Influencing stakeholders.
- Public relations / communication / marketing.
- Understanding of the international engineering and technology industry.

## Desirable

- Legal.
- Diversity.
- Awareness of young persons issues.

# Requirements for members of Council

As a member of the Council you should have:

- an understanding and commitment to the IET and its objectives
- an understanding and acceptance of the duties and responsibilities of Council membership and volunteers generally
- integrity
- the ability to make good, independent judgements
- strategic thinking and vision
- the ability to think creatively
- a willingness to speak their mind
- the ability to work effectively as a member of a team and to accept consensus decisions and act upon them.

Council as an entity needs skills and experience in the following areas:

## **General**

- Governance (charity)
- Serving the public interest
- Understanding of the breadth of the international engineering and technology profession.

## **Specialist**

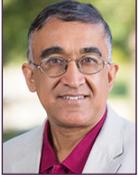
- Diversity and inclusion
- Communications
- Representation within a membership body.

## **Desirable**

- Understanding of risk management and monitoring governance.

## ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024 – VICE PRESIDENT

### **NAG, Ronjon.** BSc MS PhD CEng FIET



S 1982, AM 1984, M 2002, F 2014

Adjunct Professor, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA; President, R42 Group, Palo Alto, California, USA

Nominated by Arish Ali, Peter Bannister, J G Billingham, Barry Brooks, Graham Craddock, Yasaman Kalantarmotamedi, Joanne Pisani, R W Prager, Mike Short, Andrew Smerdon

"I teach AI, Genetics, and Ethics at Stanford University. I'm founder of R42 Institute educating and investing in deep science. I've been a founder and advisor of start-ups sold to Apple, BlackBerry, and Motorola and part owner of 100 AI and biotechnology companies. Awarded the IET Mountbatten Medal, the \$1m Verizon Powerful Answers Award, I also received the 2021 IEEE-SCV Outstanding Engineer Award, the 2023 COGX AI Lifetime Achievement Award and am the 2024 Silicon Valley Engineering Council Hall of Fame Inductee.

I pioneered text prediction, voice and handwriting recognition for mobiles. In 1999, I invented the first mobile app stores, deploying worldwide at Orange, Vodafone, Sprint, AT&T, Airtel, Telekom Malaysia, Reliance, Telstra and others, presaging an industry employing millions. As a Professor in Genetics, am now working at the intersection of medicine working on vaccine for aging.

I gave the IET 2020 AI in Healthcare lecture series, attended by thousands, created the IET Introduction to AI Online Course, and in 2023 gave IET lectures on AI and Aging. I previously served on the Knowledge Services Board and am currently a Trustee of the IET.

IET crosses borders, corporations and disciplines. We may change jobs, fields or countries: IET can help traverse these transitions. As a Vice-President I would encourage IET to:

1. Enhance entrepreneurial career options for members:
  - platforms to link venture capital to ideas;
  - enable cross-company mentoring younger engineers.
2. Enhance international activities.
  - a. Increase presence in large engineering populations – USA, India and China.
  - b. International opportunities such as job, sabbatical, and internship listings.
  - c. Bridge cultures, skill sets and accreditations across countries.
3. Democratise science to solve large problems.
  - a. Affordable open publishing.
  - b. Investigate ecosystem monetization of publications for the IET, authors and reviewers.
  - c. Standardisations of toolkits allowing audit of claims and AI."

### **NEEDHAM, Paul Michael.** FEng PhD CEng FIET



Age 54. A 1997, M 2000, F 2013

Head of Engineering Air & Space Products & Chief Engineer Historic Aircraft, BAE Systems, Samesbury, Lancashire, United Kingdom

Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"It is an honour to be nominated by the Board of Trustees to stand for election as a Trustee and Vice President. This role is a crucial part of the IET, setting the strategic vision to ensure that the IET remains a forward-looking institution and that it

remains at the forefront of engineering and technology. I hope to use my unique engineering experience and links with both academia and industry to support the IET's vision while promoting and developing young people's aspirations in engineering and technology. There are many routes into engineering like the vocational route that I took and I am passionate in supporting engineers through this route helping them to achieve Engineering excellence."

Paul has over 30 years' experience in engineering at BAE Systems and has international industrial experience under-pinned by academic knowledge. He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, Chartered Engineer, Global Engineering Fellow of BAE Systems, a Fellow of the IET, a PhD in Aerospace Design for Manufacture and in 2022 was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Huddersfield for his services to Engineering. He holds the title of Visiting Professor within the School of Computing and Engineering at the University of Huddersfield where he chairs the University's Industrial Advisory Board.

Paul started his career as an apprentice with BAE Systems; the combination of part time academic study and research with his extensive industrial engineering knowledge has made him one of very few people to have this combined experience within the UK's Engineering field.

Paul has mentored many engineers in their career and journey to becoming professional registered, both within BAE Systems and in his role as a Professional Registration Advisor (PRA) within the IET. He has previously been on the Council and the Board of Trustees for the IET.

---

## DAFFORN, Tim. BSc PhD FIET



Age 53. F 2017

Professor of Biotechnology, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"I am Professor at the University of Birmingham, the Founder and Director of a MedTech SME, and former Chief Scientist at the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). I am a dedicated professional with a fervent passion for advancing the field of engineering and technology. As an active volunteer for the IET, I co-chaired the Innovation and Skills Policy Panel where I championed the importance of innovation in engineering to solve the global challenges that face us today.

As the proud dad of a son currently studying for a degree in Mechanical Engineering I am particularly passionate about the need to ignite the "spark of innovation" in the engineers of the future. While working for the UK Government I was able to increase commitment of Universities in the UK to educating our engineering students in the entrepreneurship skills required to create the engineering businesses of tomorrow.

The IET has a crucial role in what is an uncertain global future, supporting members of our profession in addressing pressing issues like Global Warming and AI. As a current Trustee I have worked to make the IET a trusted but critical partner with Government. In the future my primary goal will be to ensure that the Institution grows as a global leader of engineers, representing its current members at the highest level while nurturing the next generation of engineers who will change the world.

I am also committed to enhancing the Institution's educational initiatives, promoting diversity and inclusion, and expanding its global reach. I firmly believe that by cultivating an environment that encourages creativity and critical thinking, we can inspire breakthroughs that extend beyond the confines of our discipline and will make us all proud to be engineers and members of the IET."

## ELECTION TO COUNCIL 2024 – ORDINARY MEMBER

### **DRURY, Will.** MEng PhD CEng FIET SMIEEE



Age 40. S 2001, M 2005, F 2016

Executive Director, Digital & Technologies, Innovate UK, Ware, United Kingdom;  
Visiting Professor, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, United Kingdom  
Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"I am a Power Electronics, Machines and Drives engineer – I have worked globally and cross-sector. As an industrialist, spanning start-up, large consultancy and the public sector giving me a broad base to understand their differing needs. I am also actively engaged with research as a Visiting Professor, University of Strathclyde and through EPSRC. I therefore bring the triple-helix of industry, academia, and public sector to the IET.

It is an enormous privilege to be nominated by the Board of Trustees to stand as an Ordinary Member of Council. The work the IET undertakes for its members is of paramount importance to the growth and global standing of engineers. Never has there been such a need for high quality engineering to deliver on some of the world's most urgent and exciting issues from AI, and Space through to Net Zero and electrification.

I currently work for Innovate UK as Executive Director for Digital and Technologies supporting businesses to harness the power of technology, data, and creativity, to shape a future that is innovative, inclusive, and successful whilst delivering positive social change. As a volunteer, I sat for over 10 years on the organising committee of the IET PEMD conference; I am a Professional Registration Assessor, Fellow Assessor and have served on the Transport and Energy Committees. In my spare time I am Group Scout Leader, and trustee of the associated charity, enabling skills for life and encouraging a growth of membership and through delivering exciting, youth lead, programmes.

I am excited by the opportunity to help make a difference to the IET and its members. Never has there been a time when the need for Professional Engineers has been more critical. I will encourage and support the IET in inspiring and engaging with more engineers to deliver a better future."

### **RAMMOHAN, Anusha.** BE MS MIET



M 2023

Senior Director, Media & Entertainment, Myelin Foundry, Bangalore, India  
Nominated by Ranjan Chaubey, Vimal Chaubey, Rishi Bhatnagar, R N Rajpoot,  
Satish Masilamani, Kavya Shree, Ajay Kulshreshth, Kalyan Sagar, Harshal Rajesh,  
Minnal Rajesh

"With over 15 years' experience in the industry, I take pride in having been a technologist throughout my career. An electrical engineer by training, I joined GE's Global Research Centre after completing my bachelor's degree from BITS-Pilani, India and master's degree from Arizona State University, USA. My areas of interest span across data analytics, machine learning and AI. My work in sensor data fusion was recognized in 2017 when I was named one of the top 10 innovators in India under 35 by Mint-MIT Technology Review. I currently lead technology and product development for the Media & Entertainment vertical at Myelin Foundry, a deep-tech AI start-up in India.

At IET India, I serve as co-chair of the AI working group in the Future Tech Panel and have authored numerous think pieces on the evolving landscape of AI and its intersections with diverse industry verticals. I have also been a part of the jury for the IET India Scholarship awards. As part of IET India's Faculty Development programme, I have helped generate creative training material on applications of AI. I had the honour of being a speaker at the IET's President's Address last year where I had the opportunity to understand and appreciate the depth and breadth of IET's vibrant member community and its global initiatives. Being a part of this remarkable organization has been a rewarding and humbling experience.

I'm deeply passionate about technology and often dabble with data science in my professional as well as personal pursuits. I believe in the importance of diverse and inclusive perspectives on technology, especially around transformative areas such as AI. If elected to Council, my goal would be to make meaningful and dedicated contributions to IET's global strategic vision, actively participating in the development and nurture of engineering and technology for the future."

---

## LI, Olaf T Y. BEng LLB MIET



Age 32. S 2013, M 2014

Assistant Operations Manager, JF Thermal System Limited, Hong Kong SAR  
Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"The IET has been my professional home since university. In this wonderful journey of 12 years and counting, I was bestowed the chance to chair the Students Section (2014) and Younger Members Section (2021) of the Hong Kong

LN, and have coordinated events in these and many other roles, including my current position in the Manufacturing and Industrial Engineering Section. Now, I am both humbled and honoured to be nominated by the Board of Trustees for Council election.

With my bachelor degree in product engineering, I have acquired the ability of innovative thinking, which has been unreservedly applied in my IET journey. For example, I founded the IET Hong Kong Young Professionals Programme in 2017 for graduate engineer mentorship, which also serves to nurture elite IET volunteers. Most importantly, YPP is successfully maintained every year by my successors, proving it to be a sustainable model. My strong belief in sustainable systems is inspired by the millennium-old English legal system, as I pursued my postgraduate law degree.

Despite my academic background, I have been trained as a thermal engineer at JF Thermal for the past 7 years, specialising in comfort heating and heat pumps. Unlike in colder regions, heating is quite a niche discipline in Hong Kong, and the application can be quite different in this subtropical part of Asia. As Assistant Operations Manager, I am also responsible for project management and strategic planning.

If elected, I will work with other Council members to:

- expand the IET's global influence as an international engineering institution;
- strengthen the IET's position as a multidisciplinary institution amid the growing trend of engineering interdisciplinarity;
- mark the IET's contribution to the world's mission towards carbon neutrality;
- encourage sustainable innovation in the development and governance of the IET; and
- prepare the IET for the future of engineering."

---

## JACKSON, Katherine. BSc MEng CEng MIET



S 1984, AM 1988, M 1993

Energy Specialist, Energythinker Consulting, Wilmslow, United Kingdom  
Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"I am a Chartered Electrical Engineer who has worked in the energy industry for over 35 years, combining leadership roles with the provision of specialist consultancy services, working internationally. My recent work has focused on energy innovation, including supporting entrepreneurs, future network design and technologies, and developing thought leadership in the future of energy.

I have contributed to energy industry groups including the IET Energy Panel, and I chaired the IET 2022 RPG conference. I have served on industrial advisory boards for universities, and currently chair the Advisory Board for the Centre for Postdoctoral Development in Infrastructure, Cities and Energy (C-DICE).

I have volunteered with the IET since 1990, in a wide range of roles, including chair for my local Branch, the Younger Members Board, and the Communities Committee – UK. These chairing roles required extensive team working and strategic thinking, as well as compliance with IET Governance requirements. I have been an IET Professional Registration Interviewer since 2007 and I have had responsibility for engineering staff development for much of my career.

Over the last 3 years I have been working part time whilst completing an MSc in Energy Policy with a diverse cohort of international students. This has given me a greater understanding of the increasing global and societal challenges which we face. I believe that the IET and its members have an important role in helping to tackle these, and the IET mission is as relevant as ever.

The completion of my MSc means that I have more time available to volunteer. If elected to Council I would like to use my knowledge, skills, professional network and insights to work collaboratively with staff and members, offer input on IET strategy and direction and help deliver the IET's mission in a rapidly changing world."

---

## HUGHES, Andrew. BEng CEng FIET MIoD



Age 46. S 1998, AM 1999, M 2002, F 2018

Managing Director, AGH Engineering Limited, York, United Kingdom  
Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"I am an IET Fellow and Chartered Electrical Engineer with 25 years career experience throughout which I have been a member of our great Institution. I have worked on numerous major UK rail infrastructure schemes, engineered solutions for enabling old and emerging technologies to work safely and successfully together, developed software applications, and invented and developed new survey equipment.

I am managing director of an engineering design consultancy and key supplier to the UK Rail Industry. We became one of the first IET Enterprise Partners and actively promote the values and objectives of the IET. I am an ardent advocate of professional development and the need for work-based competence for my staff, the members of our institution and across industry. My company was the first in the UK rail industry to achieve accreditation with the IET for our Apprenticeship Scheme and our Professional Development Scheme which cover all levels of professional registration from EngTech through to Chartership and beyond.

I have always been proud of being a member of the IEE/IET and am honoured to have been nominated by the Board of Trustees to stand for election. If elected I will further develop links I have with industry, schools, universities, and other institutions promoting the capabilities and support offering of the IET. This includes both STEM initiatives helping the next generation of engineers, and the IET's professional development courses content and structure.

I speak my mind but am open and respectful to other's opinions. I am driven to make sure we do things "right first time". I will help put the IET front and centre where it truly belongs. I will continue to promote the core IET values of Integrity, Excellence and Teamwork across industry and society."

---

### **OTIABA, Kenny.** PhD CEng MIET



M 2016

Project and Continuous Improvement Manager, AstraZeneca UK Limited, Luton, United Kingdom

Nominated by the Board of Trustees

"I am deeply honoured by the nomination for the position of Council member at the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). I aspire to contribute meaningfully to the Institution's development and build upon the inspirational and impactful work accomplished thus far. My commitment is to further serve our membership and facilitate the growth and prosperity of the engineering and technology professions.

While previously serving on the IET Council, I successfully spearheaded a Working Party focused on developing Engineers as Leaders. The survey I initiated led to actionable proposals to enhance learning and development services for IET members. Having received approval for my proposals, I am committed to continuing my impactful contributions during another 3-year term as a Council member, positively influencing the IET, its members, and society at large.

I am currently a member of the IET Audit and Risk Process Committee, Finance and Investment Committee, Professional Review Advisor (PRA), Professional Review Interviewer (PRI) and a STEM Ambassador. I have actively utilized these opportunities to contribute to the advancement of the engineering and technology community, concurrently assisting aspiring candidates in acquiring and sustaining professional registration status.

My expertise as a Chartered Engineer includes providing leadership on Business and Process Improvement Projects and Programmes, driving Operational Excellence, leading cross-functional teams in New Product Introduction, and implementing Quality Management System. I am ready to bring this wealth of experience, innovation, and strategic thinking to the IET, contributing to the Institution's growth and success.

I am steadfastly dedicated to upholding the vision, mission, and values of the IET, actively manifesting this commitment through daily efforts to foster the development of engineers, technicians, students, and apprentices."

---

### **RAJPOOT, R N.** ME MBA CEng FIET



M 2005, F 2009

GGM/Elect/Exp/RVNL, Indian Railways Services, New Delhi, India

Nominated by Mehtab Singh, M C Chauhan, R S Grover, T N Kakaji, Ashish Shrivatava, Aman Rajput, D G Pandey, P L Rishai, T B Rai, Rajesh Kumar

"I, R N Rajpoot, now GGM/Elect/Exp/RVNL (Indian Railways) joined Indian Railways Services after qualifying through the very competitive IES Exam in 1987. Some of areas of expertise are Management of operation of 132/25 KV, 66/25 kv traction

sub-stations power supply installations, 25 KV OHE, Remote Control Centre including SCADA, Management of planning, execution of traction distribution projects and their subsequent commissioning. Honoured with a National Award by the Minister for Railways for meritorious services in 2004.

My involvement with IET at various levels, has been many fold, very active and multi-dimensional – IET Volunteer – 19+ years, have served IET/DLN as Chairman, Hony Secretary, Hony Treasurer and Vice-chair and Chair of CCSA, Mentor, Fellow assessor and IPRA/PRI. Advised, helped and guided many engineers in becoming Fellows and obtain Professional Registration besides helping to grow the membership.”

Associated with many professional bodies/international institutions he had served the Institution of Engineers (India), having about 1 million members as Chairman, Honorary Secretary of DSC, Council Member (2010-2012 and 2018-22) and Chairman Safety and Quality Forum. Passion for engineering has led him to organise a number of national and international Seminars, Workshops, Lectures and Conferences notable among which was the success of the 27th Indian Engineering Congress, which was inaugurated by then President of India (December 14-16, 2012). Co-Chair for 36th Engineering Congress held on 26-29 December 2022.

“If I elected to Council, I, through my professional skills and governance experience look to bring a fresh perspective to serve the interests of IET members and the society at large I will work closely with all the local networks to significantly contribute to IET’s visibility particularly in SA and to spreads the wings to include other countries of SA in IET Network.”

---

## CREASEY, Jeremy. BSc PhD CEng FIET



M 2003, F 2012

Principal Consultant, PA Consulting, Chepstow, United Kingdom

Nominated by the Board of Trustees

“I’m a Chartered Engineer specialising in telecommunications and systems interoperability for PA Consulting. I’m grateful to have been nominated for the IET Council. I believe that Council’s responsibility is straightforward; it is to

deliver on the strategic plan and objectives set out in the IET Strategy 2030 and I want to help the IET to accomplish this.

My view is that Council should be a champion of the One Team approach, which is at the heart of the IET’s Volunteer Engagement culture. This means recognition of each member’s involvement in the IET’s purpose, through clear communication of how they have a valued contribution in delivering vital services such as professional registration, mentoring, inspiring young people into the profession, sharing knowledge through communities and technical publishing. Council should be about building good governance in an inclusive way.

For me, implementation of the strategy is not without challenge as change is not always seen as positive, particularly in such a rich, diverse, and passionate technical community as the IET. I will use my experience of creating and using technical strategies for large engineering companies to facilitate consensus decisions and support a culture of good, independent judgement.

I believe that being an engineer in the IET should be enjoyable, fun, and rewarding and that there are demonstrable returns for individuals who invest time in supporting Local and Technical Networks at whatever stage of their professional life they are at. I would bring enthusiasm and energy to Council, motivating others to want to participate in the IET.

As a Council member I will use my previous experience as chair of the CCUK and as a Volunteer to ensure that Council promotes a progressive, inspiring, safe, and inclusive IET whose members are supported to do their best, and inspires other engineers to join us.”

---

## LENIN FRED, A. ME PhD CEng MIET



M 2015

Principal, Mar Epharem College of Engineering and Technology, Marthandam, India

Nominated by S Prasanna Bharathi, Ishrat Meera Mirzana, M Marsaline Beno, Lalin L Laudis, Geoffery Jaish R L, Soumya A V, Sreeja S, Jomole Joseph P, C Gigin Durai, S Cloudin

"I am Dr A Lenin Fred, working as Principal of Mar Ephraem College of Engineering and Technology run by catholic diocese of Marthandam. Having been a dedicated member of IET since 2017, I am intimately familiar with the organization's processes and the invaluable contributions it makes through various volunteering initiatives. Over the years, my involvement in IET as a LN Chair and other responsibilities, has provided me with a profound understanding of the pivotal role it plays in shaping the engineering landscape. I have witnessed first hand the positive impact of our collective efforts on advancing technology and fostering innovation within the community.

In envisioning the future of IET, I am driven by a passion to bridge the gap between day-to-day activities and cutting-edge technology for sustainable development. I believe that technology should not merely be an abstraction but an integral part of our daily lives, contributing to the betterment of society as a whole. My vision for IET extends beyond routine operations; I see it as a dynamic platform that facilitates networking and collaboration among brilliant minds in the field. It is my sincere belief that by harnessing the collective expertise within IET, we can address and solve some of the most mysterious and pressing problems facing humanity today.

As a seasoned member, I am committed to leveraging my experience to contribute meaningfully to IET's mission. If elected, I will work tirelessly to strengthen the bonds within our community, foster innovation, and champion the application of technology for the greater good. I am excited about the prospect of serving as your Ordinary Member, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the continued success and growth of our esteemed Institution."

