

Chartered Fellows' Newsletter 21. July 2018

Newly Chartered Fellows.

CGeol

Edward Ball	Matthew Bond	Giles Bushell	Shaun Clarke
Thomas Critchfield	Laura Donegan	Jenny Ellerton	Richard Ellis
William Foster	Gavin Germaine	Paul Goff	Mark Henderson
Richard Hingston	Claire Howarth	Nnaemeka Iloani	Michael Kelly
Andrew Marshall	Toby Masters	Roberto Melillo	Susan Morgan
Gareth Northam	Benjamin Ogden	Thomas Parkinson	Michael Pickard
James Pitcher	Paul Quinlan	Jonathan Rabey	Thomas Robinson
Christopher Rowell	Paul Sargent	Alexander Stuart	William Synott

James Walker.

CSci

David Brooks Mark Deighton

CPD declarations

All Chartered Geologists and Chartered Scientists are required to make a declaration that they are carrying out and recording their CPD. A considerable number have yet to do this and so are in danger of being struck off the register of Chartered Fellows.

A link to the survey allowing this declaration to be made is provided here so anyone yet to make the declaration please do so asap

https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/E34UYqmmSPBMZDuH5G_2F48Y9XmmdH_2B7KqNMd0T0WV69A_3D

Scrutineering events

In order for Scrutineers to meet and to refresh their knowledge of the scrutineering assessment procedures 3 short workshops have been arranged as follows:

London	Burlington House	Sept 20 th
Birmingham	Birmingham Midland Institute	Sept 27 th
Manchester		Oct 4 th

These are scheduled to last 2 hours starting at 18.00 and ending at 20.00. They should be particularly valuable for new Scrutineers who will be able to discuss the procedures with others who have had experience of scrutineering. Experienced Scrutineers are encouraged to attend to share their experience with others.

Any CGeol who is not a Scrutineer and is interested in joining the scrutineering panel is welcome/encouraged to attend and to consider putting in an application. The events will also be of value to those who are not Scrutineers but who have been or are likely to be asked to act as a Sponsor for a Chartership Applicant.

Anyone interested should contact the Chartership Officer (Chartership@geolsoc.org.uk) to register their likely attendance and to receive information on the venues.

Mentoring Workshops

A further successful workshop was held on June 27th in Manchester with 14 participants. This is the 8th one that the Society has runs and another is planned for October 19th at Burlington House see attached poster. The cost for the event will be £200 for Fellows and £250 for Non Fellows

In order to plan this anyone interested is asked to contact the Chartership Officer at (Chartership@geolsoc.org.uk). The number of participants will be limited to a maximum of 18 and if a minimum number of 10 has not been received by October 5th then the workshop will be cancelled.

These workshops are designed to provide an introduction to mentoring and to help those with mentoring responsibilities develop successful relationships with their mentees. A number of people have asked about the possibility of a 'follow up' workshop going into greater depth and providing training. This can be arranged if there is sufficient interest so anyone who might wish to attend such a follow up workshop should express their interest by contacting the Chartership Officer.



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CEng with the GSL

The Society has investigated the possibility of offering CEng to suitably qualified Fellows working as Geotechnical Engineers as I have indicated in a few recent Newsletters. This was done because a number of Fellows who graduated with Geology degrees have moved into Geotechnical Engineering via appropriate MSc courses. Also, a number of CGeol-Fellows in Engineering Geology have had career changes with time and, for them, 'Geotechnical Engineer' is now more descriptive of their role than is Engineering Geologist. The possibility of offering CEng was viewed as a way that the Society might provide a service to this part of our Fellowship. We have Fellows who are FGS CGeol and FGS CSci and many think it reasonable that FGS CEng would round out and reflect more accurately the skill-base of the Fellowship.

For the majority of Fellows working in association with Engineers the title of Chartered Geologist is the correct one and which best describes their work (despite their commonly being incorrectly called 'Geotechnical Engineer' by many employers).

The Society has a considerable number of Fellows who hold the CEng title (most alongside CGeol). Of these some have gained CEng via the ICE and many of the others have joined the IMMM (previously the IMM) where they were assessed for their Geotechnical Engineering knowledge, experience and competency in order to attain the title.

When the Society indicated a proposal to offer CEng, some 40+ Fellows immediately expressed an interest in making an application. Most of these would have had to demonstrate their engineering knowledge and fulfilment of the UK-SPEC requirements via an 'Individual Route' based on knowledge gained whilst working or topping up their engineering learning to satisfy UK-SPEC. Others would hold exemplifying engineering educational qualifications and thus would have been able to apply using a simpler route. Most, if not all, of the above likely applicants would probably not qualify via the ICE as they do not have a Civil Engineering degree at Masters level and hence would not have the necessary knowledge in this area. The route presently open to them is through the IMMM where they may demonstrate their Geotechnical Engineering knowledge, etc, to Masters level. This means joining an organisation outside of their home professional institution, simply to gain the title. It was hoped that the GSL might have been able to provide this service to Fellows by developing application and assessment procedures, following the requirements of the Engineering Council's UK-SPEC, which would be just as rigorous as those of the IMMM in assessing geotechnical engineering knowledge and experience..

This CEng initiative however met with very strong opposition from the committee of the EGGS, GSL representatives of both RoGEP and the Ground Forum, as well as the IMMM

The concerns expressed by them are that:

- there is no need for Fellows to take on CEng as CGeol is now sufficient for the needs of Fellows in the industry;
- the industry would not understand FGS CEng;
- it would diminish the value of both the CGeol and CEng titles;
- there is a route for Fellows to gain CEng through the IMMM (if it is necessary for them);
- it has not been demonstrated that there is a call for it.

Fellows are still enquiring about CEng through the GSL; however in the face of such strong opposition from professional bodies in the ground engineering sector Council has decided that the initiative not be continued.

As previously mentioned CGeol is the most appropriate title for Engineering Geologists and it is hoped that companies will recognise it more by using this title rather than lumping them into a Geotechnical Engineer group. Perhaps this is something that the EGGS might promote?

Chartership Applications

Applications for CGeol by many Engineering Geology Applicants are still focusing on geotechnical engineering and competence in their job which requires this (their job title commonly is that of

Geotechnical Engineer and this does appear to cause this problem). The title being applied for is Chartered Geologist and the first two criteria spell out that the application should be focused on demonstrating these competencies but I am afraid many seem to ignore this. Similarly many Supporting Documents are geotechnical engineering reports without reference to the geology underlying the projects. Advising Applicants of the need to focus on their geological knowledge and use of this is a particularly important aspect of the Sponsor's responsibilities as Scrutineers are looking for the geological competencies to be demonstrated not geotechnical ones.