

## GYC CHAIR UPDATE

### ISSUE 3

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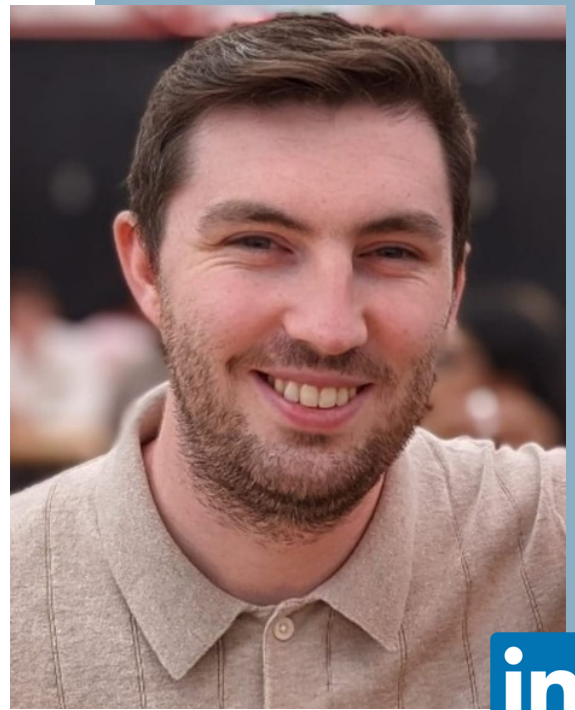
Recently, the GAMBICA Young Council (GYC) was welcomed to host their in-person meeting at the Manufacturing Technology Centre, commonly known as MTC, in Coventry.

The MTC is an independent research & technology organisation founded in 2011 that forms part of the UK Catapult network, with the aim to assist in strengthening UK manufacturing. With a state-of-the-art facility, it is home to many of the world's leading technologies and over 700 employees!

One of their key objectives is to help take R&D projects, industrialise them and make them accessible to machine builders with the technology available today without the need for a strong academic background. This disconnect between academia and industry is often referred to as 'The Valley of Death'. As well as being able to support this type of activity, the MTC are also heavily involved in training, Advanced Manufacturing Management and Factory Design. The GYC were kindly given a tour of the facilities where they were able to witness the exciting ongoing projects within the Additive Manufacturing factory and how robotics and automation is being used to solve complex challenges.

As we progress with our GYC meetings, we are now dedicating more and more time to splitting off into our three working groups to ensure that we can drive innovation and initiate change within the Engineering community.

The Sustainability working group have been hard at work to help organisations realise their environmental impacts and are to reach out to the members of GAMBICA to share how they are monitoring their own impacts. Collecting this information will help the team to generate guidance and advice to ultimately become a more sustainable workplace. Additionally, the working group is to promote businesses having sustainability champion roles, in order to give responsibility for making changes regardless of the size of the company.



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George Brown  
GYC Chair

With some of the GYC expressing their positive feedback of attending The Big Bang Fair whilst in their educational studies, the [STEM working group](#) have been in discussion with the event organisers and was able to arrange for the members of the GYC to volunteer at this year's fair. The team of volunteers look forward to attending and providing feedback on how this event went with the prospect of having a GAMBICA stand next year!



On top of the collaboration with The Big Bang Fair, the message from the STEM working group remains the same, and urges people of all Engineering disciplines to get involved with STEM at your organisations and share your experiences with the young generation by becoming a STEM ambassador.



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One event I was personally involved with was attending an All Parliament Party Group meeting at the House of Commons. This was based on the topic of 'Further Education and Skills Sector Workforce – Recruitment, Training and Retainment of Teaching Staff'. This is an important matter for both government, education and the engineering community to be involved in as there is already a skills gap in the industry but it is clear that

without action at an educational level, the UK's manufacturing sector will struggle to maintain being world-class. Interesting discussions on how this could be tackled were had throughout the meeting including the involvement of industry contributing to the delivery of the engineering curriculums at both schools and colleges, the adoption of T-Levels and the pay gap between industry and education. Whilst answers to the problem aren't finalized today, it is promising to see that the topic is considered with importance and priority.

With time going into helping people getting into the Engineering industries, it is important that businesses are also reminded about the value of the employees bring to their organisations and that is just as crucial that they dedicate resource to allow for their developments, which is exactly what the [Upskilling working group](#) have been focusing on. The working group has been working on constructing an agreement document for businesses to commit upon, which would allow for employees to have allocated time within their working schedule with the purpose of upskilling. This will need to be supported with statistical data to help build a business case for such an approach within the workplace, but ultimately could open career pathways for employees and become future leaders of the organisation. Additionally, the working group have raised the importance of empowerment within the workplace, and look to put together some guidance on requesting training to their line manager.

It is with pleasure to next introduce Daniel Macleod Hoile from HORIBA, who will now take Chair of the GYC for the next three months, whom I am sure will continue to give guidance and drive the GYC for further accomplishments.