

SCIENCE IN PARLIAMENT

The Journal of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee.

The Committee is an Associate Parliamentary Group of members of both Houses of Parliament and British members of the European Parliament, representatives of scientific and technical institutions, industrial organisations and universities.

Science in Parliament has two main objectives:
a) to inform the scientific and industrial communities of activities within Parliament of a scientific nature and of the progress of relevant legislation;
b) to keep Members of Parliament abreast of scientific affairs.



In this issue which celebrates Einstein Year as is obvious from our front cover sponsored by the Institute of Physics, appropriately Sandra Gidley launches the Liberal Democrat science policy by reviewing fundamental problems. She emphasises the importance of teaching in schools where it is claimed girls no longer study A level science. Colin Blakemore translates research outcomes from the MRC for patient benefit. Colin Challen rations carbon emissions to save the planet, followed by the contraction and convergence proposed by Mayer Hillman. At the Risk meeting, Alastair Evans proclaims London as the insurance capital of the world, Philip Dale describes how the biotechnology community handles risk and its perception and Chris Elliott discusses management of system risk. The Committee's 65th Birthday is celebrated with George Smith's insights on the management of scientific research, David King's account of climatic impacts on government policy and Julia King's engineered future, where people, especially women, will be featured. At the meeting on animals, John Sulston ranges from Darwin to DNA, Tipu Aziz rejects the Early Day Motion banning primate research, which benefits humans afflicted by Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, and Robert Hubrecht who emphasises the three Rs, especially Refinement relating to animal husbandry. John O'Reilly moves to reverse the decline in numbers of undergraduates in engineering and physical sciences. Charles Wessner and Alan Hughes compare and contrast UK versus US styles of university and industry interaction, and there is more, much more.

Dr Douglas Naysmith MP
Chairman, Editorial Board,
Science in Parliament

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