

## Vice-Principal Science and Engineering's Report to Senate

Since my last report, we have appointed two new Deputy Deans – Jane Reid for Graduate Opportunities and Henri Huijberts for Student Experience. I am delighted to welcome Jane and Henri into these roles. They will work with Julia Shelton in providing leadership across the Faculty in preparations for TEF, with the aim of achieving excellence in all aspects of the student experience and graduate opportunities, including employability. We are in the process of recruiting a Faculty Student Experience Officer who will join Julia, Henri and Jane in identifying best practice within our schools and developing a strategy to improve the student experience for all cohorts.

Student applications within the Faculty are looking promising – we are slightly down on Undergraduate Home and Overseas compared to last year but some of our new programmes, like Chemical Engineering, are proving very popular. Our PGT Home and Overseas are significantly up, compared to last year.

In November 2016, both SMS and SBCS submitted their silver Athena Swan applications. The Faculty was also heavily involved in the institutional submission for a silver award in November. SEMS will be submitting a proposal for a silver award later this year. Our commitment to the Athena Swan initiative reflects our commitment to ensuring that equality and diversity underpin all our activities.

I am delighted to inform you that a joint bid with Imperial and other London universities for £3m of Wellcome Trust funding to establish a shared high resolution cryo-electron microscopy facility for research and training has been successful. This is an outstanding achievement by SBCS and demonstrates our strong and growing research profile in this field.

On 31<sup>st</sup> January, we held our Faculty Celebration where we recognised the contributions made by staff in teaching, research and professional services in the past year. The Student Experience and Education Awards covered a range of contributions – from recognising consistent high quality module delivery to innovative use of QMPlus.



*Recipients of Student Experience and Education Awards*