Institute of Acoustics (IOA)

Institute of **Acoustics**

Website: http://www.ioa.org.uk

Bridget Shield, President

Institute of Acoustics

The Institute of Acoustics is the UK's professional body for those working in the acoustics, noise and vibration sectors.

Formed in 1974, it has some 3,000 members, ranging from university students to qualified professionals working in a diverse range of organisations.

By far the largest number of members work in consultancy (approximately 45 per cent), followed by public authorities and industry/commerce (both around 12 per cent). Other fields where many members work include education and research and development.

The Institute is governed by elected trustees made up of senior members, known collectively as Council. At its head is a President, currently Professor Bridget Shield. The administrative functions are performed by a small team of staff based at the Institute's offices in St Albans.

A key part of the Institute's work is the organisation of conferences and events, which are also open to non-members. As well as an annual conference, it holds several events a year catering for specialist interests, for example building acoustics, electro-acoustics, environmental noise, measurement and instrumentation and noise and vibration engineering. The next major conference will be Reproduced Sound, to be held in Manchester on 12-14 November.

Another important part of its work is its education courses. Its Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control is a post-graduate course that is studied part-time at centres across the UK and Ireland and is also available as a tutored distance learning option. Additionally, the Institute offers short certificate course in building acoustics, environmental noise measurement, workplace noise risk assessment and the management of occupational exposure to hand-arm vibration.

Its flagship publication is Acoustics Bulletin, a news magazine covering all facets of acoustics, which is published six times a year. Free to members, it is also available by subscription to non-members.