

## The Panasonic Trust Fellowships

These prestigious awards are tenable on the following Masters courses during 2000:

Multimedia Technology at the University of Bath.  
Manufacturing Systems Engineering at the University of Bradford.  
Cranfield Manufacturing Masters Courses at Cranfield University.  
Environmental Sustainability at the University of Edinburgh.  
Geotechnical Engineering at Heriot-Watt University.  
Environmental Diagnosis at Imperial College.  
Water and Environmental Management at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.  
Renewable Energy and the Environment at the University of Reading.  
Corrosion Science and Engineering at UMIST.  
Engineering for Development at the University of Southampton.  
Energy Systems and the Environment at the University of Strathclyde.  
Water and Environmental Engineering at the University of Surrey.  
Facilities Management at UWE Bristol.  
Urban Design/Town and Country Planning at UWE Bristol.  
Virtual Manufacturing in Construction and Engineering at the University of Wolverhampton.

## Do you run a Technology Updating Course?

The Panasonic Trust is always keen to expand the number of courses it supports with its awards. Suitable courses, either full or part-time, can cover any aspect of new technology. Suitable applicants need not be graduates but should have an engineering qualification. Please contact us for further information on funding opportunities.

## Application Information

All enquiries about the Panasonic Trust and its activities should be made to:

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# Panasonic Trust News

Issue 8 November 2000

## First Fellows of the 21st Century

The third tranche of Panasonic Trust Fellows was appointed at the end of August following a highly competitive selection program undertaken by the Trust. Altogether the scheme drew more than 30 applications for each of the five prestigious Fellowships on offer this year, which showed not only the success of the scheme, but the demand for skills and training in sustainable development and environmentally related subjects.

The five engineers selected for the first Fellowships of the millennium were newly graduated Ryan Sweetman, 23 from Exeter who will be attending the Sustainable Management of the Water Environment course at Newcastle. Chartered Civil Engineers Tony Sims from Leatherhead and Andrew Crosby from Highbridge who will be studying Engineering Product Design at the South Bank University and Multimedia Technology at the University of Bath respectively. And finally Londoner Tim Marshall and Angela Curry from Kingston upon Hull who will both be moving to the South Coast to study Engineering for Development at the University of Southampton. Each Fellow receives a cheque for £7,000 in addition to overseas travel funds to enable them to undertake field trips or attend conferences during the course of their studies.

In announcing the awards Panasonic Trust Chairman Robin Bond FREng said, "The Universities have done another fine job in attracting real quality individuals onto their courses. Those we have selected to receive our awards this year were only chosen after some very lengthy deliberations. My only regret is that we could not have funded more awards this year, which will certainly be an issue that I and my fellow Trustees will be addressing in the near future for our 2001 scheme".



## Trust awards bursary founded by Civil Engineer

As we reported in the November 1999 issue ('The Royce Spirit of achievement lives on'), the Panasonic Trust is involved in the administration of awards on behalf of other organisations as well as those sourced from its own funds. This year, for the first time, Trustees awarded the Sir Angus Paton Bursary on behalf of



Sir Angus Paton CMG FREng FRS 1905 - 1999

The Royal Academy of Engineering. The bursary, which has been awarded since 1986, is funded from an endowment made to The Academy by the late Sir Angus Paton CMG FREng FRS. It is awarded to a suitably qualified engineer for the study of a Water Engineering related full time course at the Masters level. This year's bursary was awarded to Jonathan Hunter, 25 from Peebles in Scotland, to study the MSc course in Sustainable Management of the Water Environment at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne starting in October 2000. Jonathan has recently returned from Sri Lanka, where he was working on the design and implementation of water supply schemes to rural communities.

For those not familiar with Sir Angus Paton, he was one of this country's most distinguished civil engineers in the 20th Century, working on and managing some of the biggest construction projects around the world. His most notable achievements were the construction of the Kariba dam and hydroelectric power station on the River Zambesi, and the Indus Basin Project in Pakistan. Sir Angus was President of the Institution of Civil Engineers 1970-1971 and Vice President of the Royal Society 1977-1978. He was one of the founding Fellows of The Fellowship of Engineering in 1976, which became The Royal Academy of Engineering in 1992.

# Panasonic Trust Fellow joins consultancy



Matthew Palmer

**A year ago we featured two of the first Panasonic Trust Fellowship awardees ('Training for a Sustainable and Renewable Future' November 1999) who had both studied the Energy and the**

**Environment course at the University of Reading. One of the awardees, Matthew Palmer, was still looking for a suitable job in which to apply what he had learnt from the course. In this article we catch up with Matthew and see how he has fared during the last 12 months.**

It is now almost a year since I completed my MSc. After graduating, I returned to my previous employer (a consultancy firm specialising in oilfield water injection) as a contract lab technician. This gave me financial security while I looked for employment in the renewable energy field.

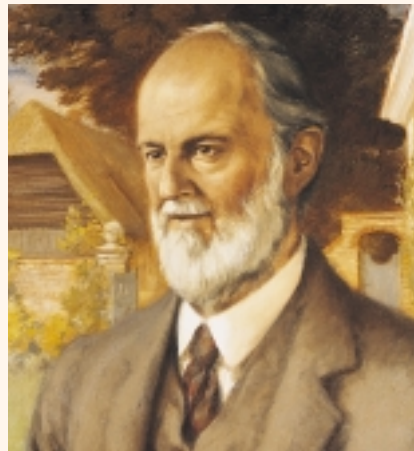
After several unsuccessful interviews, I was offered a six-month traineeship at Dulas Ltd, a renewable energy consultancy based in mid Wales. This gave me the opportunity to experience the commercial realities of the renewable industry and gave me the chance to put the theory from my MSc course in to practice.

The company deals with all forms of renewable energy – wind, hydro, solar and biomass – as well as performing environmental assessments and promoting sustainable energy policy. I was based in the hydro department; a team of four engineers specialising in small-scale hydroelectric installations.

I was involved with project ranging from feasibility studies and hydrological analysis through to complete systems design and installation. The schemes ranged in size from simple domestic installations of a few kilowatts, up to fully grid connected installations producing hundreds of kilowatts. With many projects running simultaneously the work was varied and challenging. A typical week could involve spreadsheet modelling, AutoCAD design, on-site surveying and technical report writing. The larger schemes involved expertise in mechanical, electrical and civil engineering, as well as good commercial and management skills.

I completed my traineeship in July and have since been offered a permanent position in the hydro department. I find the job immensely satisfying, especially being involved in all aspects of a project from inception and design right through to commissioning. I feel that I am now in an ideal position to play an active part in the rapidly expanding renewables industry.

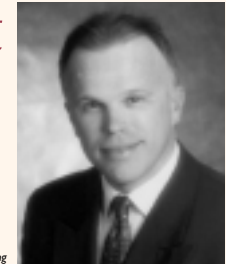
## 2000 Royce Bursaries Announced



Sir Frederick Henry Royce 1863 - 1933

This year's recipients of the prestigious Sir Henry Royce Bursaries have just been announced. Roland Armitage, George Christofi and Craig Jones, who are all employed by the Ford Company at the Dunton Engineering Centre, have been given awards to study the Automotive Masters course at the University of Hertfordshire, whilst Graham Dunn of the Defence Procurement Agency is being supported to study the Aerospace IGDS Masters course at the University of Bristol. In addition to a £1,000 bursary, each awardee will receive a Sir Henry Royce Medal when they have completed their respective courses.

# A View from the Continent



Eur Ing Cliff Young

**You do not have to be working within the UK to be eligible for a Panasonic Trust award. The Trust is very keen to support the ever-increasing numbers of engineers who add to their professional and personal skills by working in another Member State of the European Union. Here Cliff Young, who is currently employed on the Eurofighter project in Munich, gives a brief insight into his experiences in pursuing a technology updating Masters course.**

Three years ago, I became interested in increasing my market worth and ensuring my long-term employability. At that time, my one-sentence career profile would have read: an aeronautical engineering graduate with 8 years experience as a development engineer at BAE, followed by 9 years' programme management experience at the Eurofighter Headquarters in Munich.

Qualifications count for a lot more in Germany than they do in the UK and I decided that a BSc(Eng) was not a very good description of what I could actually do. I therefore started looking for a way to capitalise on my programme management experience and this led to thoughts of studying an MSc or MBA. After looking around, I eventually chose the Integrated Graduate Development Scheme in Aerospace Design Manufacturing and Management at the University of Bristol. This was a flexible modular course that allowed me to concentrate on the type of management subjects that might be expected in an 'Aerospace' MBA, although it led to the award of an MSc.

The course is organised in 12 one-week modules that can be spread over three to five years. Being based in Germany, this was a highly convenient arrangement for me. Each module included a company-based assignment. Although not company sponsored, the modules were so relevant, I found it relatively easy to integrate them into my day to day work. This kept the level of effort needed to complete the course within reasonable limits and helped me to achieve high marks.

I was completely self funded, which was potentially a significant financial outlay. However, I was successful in obtaining financial support from the Panasonic Trust, for which I was extremely grateful.

I finished the course work in a record 2 years and 9 months and successfully graduated in June of this year with an MSc "with commendation". The subject of my final-year thesis was "the effectiveness of multi-company teams in strategic alliances".

It is too early to say how much difference the course will make in the long term. However, I have made the following observations so far:

I now find that, even if the subject is unfamiliar, I can quickly identify what needs to be done, why and how. I can usually see through the clutter and confusion and understand what the real issues are; whether they are technical, political or personal for example. This ability often results in influence over and above my formal level of authority.

Two years ago, I made a major change from product development to product support (proposal management). The course allowed me to analyze, understand and master the new job in a very short space of time. As a result, I would now feel confident about adapting to almost any other position within the aerospace industry and also beyond.

During the course, I built up a network of contacts throughout the UK aerospace industry. Unfortunately, I currently deal with non-UK aerospace companies and so this has been of limited



photo courtesy of BAE plc

relevance to me so far. Nevertheless, I believe that this is a potentially a significant benefit and I would recommend that any prospective MBA/ MSc student take this into account when selecting a course.

A few years ago, I thought of myself as an aerospace engineer and later as an aerospace professional. Now that I have completed the MSc, I think of myself as a project manager in the broadest sense and my objective is to seek a new challenge on that basis.

I would be interested to hear from anyone who has comments or questions on the above. I can be contacted by e-mail on [mail@cliffyoung.com](mailto:mail@cliffyoung.com).