# Minutes of the 2025 AGM of the Electron Microscopy Section of the Royal Microscopical Society which was held on Wednesday 2 July 2025 during mmc2025.

**Members present:** Roland Fleck FRMS (EM Chair), Chris Parmenter FRMS (EM Deputy Chair), Peter O'Toole FRMS (RMS President), Michelle Peckham FRMS (RMS Executive Honorary Secretary), Maddy Parsons FRMS (RMS Honorary Secretary – Biological Sciences), Kurt Anderson FRMS, Nitin Arya FRMS, Laura Clark, Sarah Harper FRMS, Martin Jones FRMS, Mark Leake FRMS, Leandro Lemgruber, Katherine MacArthur, Kirsty MacLellan-Gibson, Judith Mantell, Jon Moss FRMS, Dana Perry, Greeshma Pradeep, Alice Pyne FRMS, Lior Pytowski, Virginia Silio, Thomas Slater FRMS, Alex Sossick, Clare Steele-King FRMS, Lore Troalen, Jessica Valli FRMS, Gea van de Kerkhof, Sali Davis (RMS Chief Executive) and Jade Sturdy (RMS Committee Co-ordinator and PA to Chief Executive).*

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from: Rod Shipley, Andy Brown FRMS, Kerry Thompson FRMS and Mark Jepson FRMS.

## 2. Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## 3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 4. Report from Section Chair

The Section Chair gave the following report:

*"This is my first report as Chair of the Electron Microscopy Section, and it is a privilege to take over from Asa Barber. Asa and Becky Thompson deserve a large "pat on the back" for leaving the Section in such a vibrant state. I'll endeavour with my Deputy Chair, Chris Parmenter, and the rest of the Section committee to continue their legacy and take the EM Section from strength to strength.*

*The report I present here is a reflection on business as usual. The programme of events has returned to pre-covid levels of activity with major international events on the horizon and an increase of in-person activities. The Section and wider RMS are increasingly aware of accessibility and engaging with all parts of our community. The importance of training, sharing good practice in electron microscopy, and career support remain a strong feature of the Section and are reflected in the breadth of internal and external RMS events held.*

*The Section remains broadly positioned to support electron microscopy across the life and physical sciences as well as wider technique development. Representing microscopists at all career stages and encompassing technical, academic, industrial and amateur microscopists, the Section has sector wide representation. It is in this capacity that the Section are able to promote electron microscopy and associated techniques. The below variety of events from the last year demonstrate the breadth of interests:*

*External:*

- *Southwest Electron Microscopy 2025 (SW-EM), 10–11 June 2025 Plymouth, UK*
- *MidsEM 2025. 4 June 2025 Birmingham, UK*
- *Midlands Innovation Electron Microscopy Network (MI EM) 25 April 2025, Bedford, UK*
- *SEMT, 4 December 2024, held at the Natural History Museum provided a pre-Christmas opportunity for the community to gather, enjoy a compendium of presenters delivering across a wide range of subject areas and catch up with friends and colleagues. Helena Friedrich, King's College London, won the 2024 RMS Beginner's Competition with her talk on microplastic interactions with cells using synchrotron FTIR.*

*RMS:*

- *EM-UKI 6-7 February 2025, Liverpool, UK. Locally organised by Heath Bagshaw and Alison Beckett at the University of Liverpool with excellent support from industry. The meeting was broad and incorporated updates from the EM community (e.g., vEM, RUEDI, cryo microscopy group), guidance from major UK funding bodies, careers and outreach sessions as well as presentations through techno bites and methodology.*

- *EBSD 2025 1-2 April 2025 Glasgow, UK*

*The next 12 months will be busy for the EM Section kicking off activities with mmc2025 in July. We'll then embark on a roller-coaster of meetings including the Cryo Microscopy Group Meeting in Nottingham, 12 November 2025 and SEMT in London, 3 December 2025, which will as always have a nice, varied programme laid out and host the RMS Beginners Competition.*

*For 2026 we have two major events:*

- *Synergy for Science 2026: Meeting for a Healthier Future, 12-16 July 2026, Glasgow. This is a joint activity with the IoP, and the RMS have been awarded 5 sessions.*
- *IMC21, 31 August- 4 September 2026, Liverpool. The RMS is the UK host and organiser for the conference. The Scientific Organising Committee are planning the largest congress ever with the 21st International Microscopy Congress (IMC21). Since its inaugural event in 1954, IMC has been held around the World providing an opportunity to infuse global cutting-edge research expertise and technology in microscopy. IMC21 will be a fantastic way for delegates to inspire and empower the next generation whilst meeting and reuniting with colleagues in the vibrant and cultural city of Liverpool.*

*During mmc2025 Kedar Narayan will receive his 2025 Alan Agar Award. His work applies FIB-SEM and other volume EM technologies to questions in cell biology, which includes correlative imaging, deep learning/AI, and tool development.*

*I look forward to the challenge of the next 12 months and working with the committee, the RMS and the wider community to continue to promote success for the Electron Microscopy community."*

**5. Election of Officers**

There being no other nominations, the following Officers were duly elected:

Chair: Roland Fleck, Kings College London
Deputy Chair: Chris Parmenter, University of Nottingham

**6. Election of Ordinary Members**

The following Ordinary Members were duly elected:

Christopher Allen, Diamond Light Source
Martha Briceno, Johnson Matthey Technology Centre
Jemima Burden, University College London
Patricia Goggin, University of Southampton
Louise Hughes, Oxford Instruments
Mark Jepson, Loughborough University
Rebecca Thompson, Thermo Fisher Scientific
Thomas Walther, University of Sheffield

In addition to the nominated Committee Members Kirsty Maclellan-Gibson, Judith Mantell, Jake Richardson and Lore Troalen have been co-opted onto the Committee. Gea van de Kerkhof has been co-opted as the Early Career Representative.

Invited to attend: Ursel Bangert, Martin Jones, Liz Duke and Alex Ball.

**7. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

*** Non-members present:** Jemima Burden