

Facilitator and Panel Members Biographies

Sarah Coleman is a Fellow and former non-executive director of the Association for Project Management. She began her career in ICT and draws on over 25 years' experience of leading and supporting the shaping, scoping, designing and delivery of business critical projects, programmes and change up to \$50million across professional services, private sectors and government in the UK and internationally. She specializes in improving the performance of project, programme, portfolio and change management (P3CM) in organisations, and in developing these professional communities.



Sarah holds an MBA from Cranfield School of Management and is visiting fellow at Lincoln University. She is a published author having authored "Project Leadership" (Gower, 2015), and contributed the chapter "Dealing with Power and Politics" to "Business Analysis and Leadership: Influencing Change" (Kogan Page, 2013). She contributes to professional journals and websites, and is currently editing a book on organisational change for Kogan Page. She is also a qualified and experienced coach and mentor.

Professor Peter Jimack is Dean of Engineering at the University of Leeds. He has held the role since August 2010, prior to which he was Associate Dean for Research. Engineering at Leeds is structured into 5 Academic Schools (civil, computing, electronic & electrical, mechanical and chemical & process) each of which teaches a portfolio of related majors. Between them the 5 Schools have over 3000 students and generate an income, from research and student education, of approximately £75M per year.



Outside of the UK the European Union funding provides support for many collaborative research projects and training networks however but the Faculty also has excellent relationships beyond Europe (via groupings such as the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) for example). Professor Jimack is currently focusing more of his attention on increasing engineering partnerships with Universities in Asia. The most significant of these is the collaboration with Southwest Jiaotong University in China, which has led to the formation of a Joint School of Engineering that allows for students to study in China for a Leeds engineering degree. Other collaboration agreements and memoranda of understanding have been reached with Universities in China, Hong Kong, India and Malaysia – providing new opportunities for collaboration in both research and student education.

Peter is a member of the Global Engineering Deans Council, and through this he seeks to develop both formal and informal international partnership with deans in North and South America, Africa and Asia, as well as elsewhere in Europe.

Annette Barker is a risk consulting partner at KPMG and is based in KPMG's Leeds office. She has 23 years' experience in the accountancy profession involving audits, accountancy, transactions services and forensic.



Annette assists her clients respond to risk issues in order to improve their governance and to mitigate their position. Annette and her team also work with clients to think about and horizon scan new risk issues.

Andrew Kennedy is currently the Head of Strategy at the Military Air and information division of BAE systems. He leads a team responsible for developing and implementing the strategy of a global business with a turnover of approximately £4bn as well as supporting major export campaigns with analysis on the competitive environment. He previously worked in the Head Office of the company running a team supporting global export campaigns across the entire spectrum of the company. Andrew was also the BAE Systems representative at the Royal College of Defence Studies in 2013 – a year-long course for senior military and civilian leaders focused on strategic leadership with 90 students from 60 different countries – where he was the only industry member. Prior to joining the company Andrew worked in the Royal United Services Institute – a leading defence and international relations think tank based in London where he was responsible for all research and analysis related to Asia. He joined RUSI after a short period in the Ministry of Defence where he worked on helping the development of UK military doctrine. Andrew has a Politics degree from the University of Hull and a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies from Missouri State University in the USA. In between those qualifications he worked for a year in the House of Commons as a researcher for a Shadow Cabinet Minister.



Jeanne Townend has served as lead executive for Europe & Asia of ICF International, a \$1.1 billion, US-headquartered, NASDAQ-listed consulting firm.

With more than 25 years of international experience in growing and leading consulting businesses providing strategy and large-scale implementation in a wide range of sectors - in particular, energy, health, and government, Jeanne has a strong track record of turning around performance in tough markets.



Her focus is often on openness and leadership, and has been described by colleagues as ‘a modern business leader agile and capable of being both proactive and reactive, often simultaneously’. She has, on many occasions, demonstrated strong on-the-job leadership with an outstanding ability to immerse herself into the role of the employee and client. She is disciplined, result-oriented, empathetic, accountable and responsible. Jeanne is a gifted communicator and a team player who is able to motivate and bring people together to work for a common goal. Jeanne is also particularly strong in developing solid platforms and organisational structures aimed at achieving sustainable growth; something which is key in our new strategy.

Martin John joined what is now the Infrastructure and Project Authority in April 2015, leading the team engaging major project and programme delivery in health and care, education, communities & local government and culture media sport. Martin is an MBA and project leadership programme graduate who has been a senior civil servant for over 14 years.

Prior to his current role, Martin led programme assurance, programme management and business systems readiness for the innovative rehabilitation programme to reform probation services. During his time in the Ministry of Justice, and its predecessor departments, Martin has been a driver of strategic change in tribunals and courts administration both in London and nationally; in particular as director of tribunals and director of asylum and immigration.