

24 August 2018

## AOC Elections – SIGINT Seminar – Defence & Security Accelerator

**STOP PRESS** AOC HQ announced today that the UK Chapter has been awarded the prestigious Chapter of the Year (Large Chapter category) award. This makes it 7 years in a row, which is unprecedented for a Chapter covering an entire country. A couple of US Chapters have won it more times (although not necessarily in a row) but they are all based around a military base, academic institute or small city. BZ to all concerned (BZ is RN short code for Well Done – the highest accolade possible), and many thanks to all Chapter and BOD members who have contributed to Chapter events and made this possible.

**AOC Elections** It is almost time for the next round of AOC BOD elections, with the elections running from 1-30 Sept. Although there are several US only slots available which UK members quite rightly cannot vote on, there are 2 At-large directorships where we have a vote with 10 candidates, 2 of whom are from outside the US. Of the 10 candidates, the 2 from outside the US are our very own Dr Bob Andrews MBE and a lady from Japan. Only around 10% of the AOC's eligible 11,000 plus members generally vote; the non-US component stands at 20% of the overall membership, and is the fastest growing sector. The low turn-out means that every vote counts. There are some supplementary voting issues this year to do with AOC governing documents.

You can see the full election details and candidates here: <https://www.crows.org/page/elections>

**AOC Webinar on SIGINT** Professor David Stupples gave an outstanding webinar about SIGINT titled SIGINT in the Electromagnetic Spectrum. The presentation was excellent and was followed by an extended discussion with the questions and answers coming thick and fast well past the scheduled end time. AOC members can see a recording of the whole thing via the AOC website and the "Programs" tab. David's presentation is on the 7<sup>th</sup> page (although there are, at the time of publication, issues with the AOC website links to the webinars - hopefully quickly resolved)). AFCEA wrote a report on the webinar which you can read via this (tested and secure) link: <https://www.afcea.org/content/china-advances-signals-intelligence>

**[UK OFFICIAL] New Competition Launch - The Invisible Battlespace** Professor David Blacknell, Dstl Technical Fellow, Space and Sensing Systems Group, CIS Division, Dstl sent the following message:

*Accelerator Delivery Team. We have launched a new competition today – The Invisible Battlespace. Please see links below for your info and sharing:*

*News item:*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-competition-the-invisible-battlespace>

*Competition summary document:*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/competition-the-invisible-battlespace>

*This competition is based on a requirement to gather ideas to provide a radical approach to conducting Electromagnetic Operations. This primarily relates to solutions operating across radio and microwave bands whilst minimising electromagnetic interference, it is related to a bigger programme of activities (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contested-electromagnetic-environment-programme>). Solutions need to be able to be conducted across different operational domains – Space, Air, Sea, Land and Cyber Space.*

*Competition Manager – Jess Lucas*

*Competition launch – July 2018*

*Networking event – September 2018 – date TBC*

*Competition closes – 22 October 2018*

*Decision conference – 15 November*

I hope this is of interest to some of you.

**Electronic Warfare and Cyber Operations Symposium (up to NATO SECRET)** Cranfield and Shrivenham have announced that their next EW Symposium will be held 4/5 Dec 18. The agenda looks interesting and returns to the format and content used 3 or more years ago, under a new Director. You can find out more about it at: <https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/events/symposia/ew>

**UK Chapter Constitution** The current UK Chapter Constitution is dated 2003. While it has served us well, much has changed in the world of EW and in the AOC. Consequently, the BOD worked on a new version, which was circulated to members for a 2 week review period. Thank you to all of you who commented. The final ratification draft has now been produced and will be sent to AOC HQ on 27 August. Hopefully it will be ratified at the AOC BOD meeting in September.

**Three Year Young Adult Complimentary Membership Scheme** is a great initiative and one the UK Chapter has worked towards for many years – please think about it and use it wisely, for example let your HR, apprentice and training teams know about it. At least for the UK, the scheme appears to be working well as noted above with an **impressive 46 under-26 new members** signed up already. Well done to all concerned – keep up the good work! Please pass this information to your Human Resources folks especially if your company has a graduate entry or apprenticeship scheme. Equally universities should be a rich resource in terms of new members. For more information please contact our outstanding membership director, Ian Fish: [piscene1@gmail.com](mailto:piscene1@gmail.com) or me at [jonclif@aol.com](mailto:jonclif@aol.com)

**Finally** That's all folks. I've listed a few dates below, where you might consider joining us and the wider AOC community in 2018. Feedback is always welcome; otherwise we operate in a vacuum. We need more diverse and young members to become actively involved in what the Chapter does – any ideas are most welcome. **Please send ideas about recognising suitable individuals or organisations for AOC and/or UK Chapter awards. We are particularly keen to encourage apprentices in industry, academics and serving personnel to join the AOC** as it brings many on-line benefits like webinars and courses and networking opportunities, monthly copies of JED, a reference library and more - all helpful when learning new EW or EM-related skills.



John Clifford OBE  
UK Chapter President

### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR 2018/2019 DIARY**

**55<sup>th</sup> AOC Annual International Symposium** Marriott Marquis DC, 27-29 November 2018

**UK Chapter Christmas Awards Dinner** – RAF Club Friday 14 December 2018

**EW Symposium by Cranfield University at the Defence Academy** 2/5 Dec 18

**AOC EW Asia 2019** Marina Bay Sands Expo and Conference Centre **Singapore**, 29/30 January 2019

**AOC EW Europe 2019** – Stockholmsmässan Exhibition and Conference Centre, **Stockholm**, Sweden, 13 – 15 May 2019; this is the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of EW Europe.

**Check out our website at [www.ukaoc.org](http://www.ukaoc.org)**

You can also check out **career opportunities** there too, by clicking on the

Home Page "**EW Job Vacancies**" button.