



The CIBSE ASHRAE group present...

# Graduate of the Year 2010



**The Chartered Institution  
of Building Service Engineers**

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## Universal challenge

### Welcome from Rob Manning – CIBSE President

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I am delighted to welcome you all to this year's CIBSE/ASHRAE Graduate of the Year awards.

In the 15 years since it was launched, this award has become increasingly important to CIBSE. The support of young engineers is now a key priority for the Institution and we are continually looking for ways to motivate, encourage and celebrate their talent.

In my Presidential Address I talked about the skills that need to be in place to deliver low carbon targets. We need our businesses to come out of the global recession with the skills to continue to deliver on our environmental, economic

and social targets. Recent research in the UK shows that there is a strong risk that potential graduates may abandon the industry. There can therefore be no more important task for our industry and our Institution than to galvanise young engineers.

This afternoon you will see evidence of the talent this industry can attract. Over the years of this award we have watched many graduates showcasing their brilliance as they compete in front of us and each year it reinforces our faith in the ability of our academic institutions to produce excellent engineers and in our companies to employ them.

This award has given young building services engineers a platform on which to show just how well they can grasp a problem, produce a solution and argue for its adoption in front of a tough audience. That is a vital skill. Young engineers with enough confidence in their ability and the conviction of their talent to argue for the right solution every time is, more than ever, what our industry needs.



## Still special

### Welcome from Lynn Bellenger – ASHRAE President

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The so-called 'special' relationship between the US and the UK might be a continuing source of controversy in political circles, but in the far more pragmatic world of engineering it remains straightforward.

Our domestic industries are different and some of the technical standards we use vary, but fundamentally building services engineers on both sides of the Atlantic are singing from the same hymn sheet – you see, we even use the same expressions!

The CIBSE/ASHRAE Graduate of the Year Award has become, during its 15 year history, a key element in the special relationship between the two bodies and their members worldwide. It has helped to cement a hugely important professional 'friendship' and given young British engineers a unique opportunity to meet and learn from their North American cousins.

However, it has also served to highlight the fact that talent alone is never enough. Over the years we have seen an amazing array of highly gifted young engineers competing for this award, but their subsequent success has depended on a responsive

marketplace and the willingness of employers to give them a chance.

Today, faced with the most challenging economic conditions any of us can remember, employers have an even greater responsibility. We simply cannot afford to wait until the picture improves before investing in our talented young people. If we do, it will already be too late. We will not be equipped to deliver the kind of engineering we need now, in the immediate aftermath of the recession and long into the future.

I congratulate the Graduate Award on reaching this important milestone and commend it for its championing of youthful talent. To make a better and sustainable future, we – the older generation – must invest in such talent in good times and bad.



# WELCOME

## Viva Las Vegas!

Welcome to the 2010 CIBSE/ASHRAE Graduate of the Year Awards where six of the country's top young building services engineers will battle it out for a place at the ASHRAE Winter Meeting in Las Vegas.

The Award, which is now sponsored by Baxi Commercial Division, is in its 15th year having started life as the HAC Graduate Award. It was first awarded at the CIBSE National Conference in Harrogate back in 1996 and then for several years travelled around the country alongside the conference gaining momentum and prestige. The Rumford Club, as in previous years, is providing generous cash bursaries to the second and third placed finalists.

The judging panel is one of the most prestigious ever assembled in our industry as it includes the presidents of CIBSE, ASHRAE and the IMechE. The event has been held at the IMechE's headquarters since 2003 and is a key part of the itinerary of the ASHRAE President's annual visit to the UK.

This year we are delighted to welcome the society's first ever female President, Lynn Bellenger, who will deliver the annual ASHRAE Presidential Lecture: 'Modelling a Sustainable World'.

Every year the finalists are asked to address a topic chosen by the CIBSE/ASHRAE Group that complements the ASHRAE President's theme – they have just five minutes to present this to the audience and judging panel. This year they are being asked to tackle: 'What tools does the modern building services engineer need to help society create a sustainable world?'

Thank you for joining us today and we hope you enjoy the presentations.

### 2010 JUDGING PANEL:

- Lynn Bellenger, ASHRAE President
  - Rob Manning, CIBSE President
  - John Wood, IMechE President
  - David Arnold, former CIBSE President and ASHRAE director
  - Emma Marshall, 2009 winner
- CHAIR: Professor Tim Dwyer,**  
Chairman CIBSE/ASHRAE Group

## Message from our sponsor

Baxi Commercial Division is once again honoured to sponsor the CIBSE/ASHRAE Graduate of the Year Award.

The winner of this award acts as an ambassador for the young Building Services Engineering profession and last year's winner, Emma Marshall, has already achieved considerable success, notably by leading the way in forming a new CIBSE Young Engineers Network region in the North East.

Paul Hardy, Managing Director, said, "Emma has proved herself a very worthy winner and her success so far shows what can be achieved when we support and champion our young talent."

"At Baxi Commercial Division, we believe that recognising the achievements of our young engineers is vital in securing a healthy future for the industry. Awards like these offer encouragement for those already studying for a career in engineering and building construction, as well as providing inspiration for other talented young people to seek a profession in the industry."

This is especially important at the current time, due to pending legislation changes as well as the reduction in public spending within the building sector. The CIBSE/ASHRAE Graduate of the Year category of the CIBSE Awards is one of the most high profile platforms from which to launch our industry's young superstars, who will play a leading role in taking on the challenges of the future."



## THE 2010 FINALISTS tackling the subject:

*'What tools does the modern building services engineer need to help society create a sustainable world'*



### VASILEIA CHATZINASIΟΥ

Vasileia (known as Leia) graduated from the MSc Environmental Design and Engineering course at University College London (UCL) last year. She achieved an overall distinction with over 70 per cent in both the taught and the research sections of the course.

She was snapped up by her employer EnergyExcel within a week of graduation and was sent to Poland on her first job the following day. She has now worked on several projects all involved with improving the energy efficiency of building services in client companies such as GSK.

Leia was class president for the academic year and clearly had a huge impact. Her tutor said in the 10 years he'd been involved with the course, "we've never had a class president like her". Described as the "life and soul of the year", she still managed to produce excellent academic results.



### CLODAGH FARRELL

Clodagh joined the 2nd year of the energy and building services course at the University of Ulster after completing an Electrical Engineering HND. She graduated with first class honours and her design project was the best submission "by far", according to her tutor.

She undertook her placement with Semple & McKillop, a leading M&E Consulting Engineering firm in Ireland where she was given responsibility for her own design jobs onsite, and was offered full-time employment after graduation.

She is a firm believer in bringing the different parts of the engineering community together to deliver a more balanced solution. She is committed to further research and development within the field, in particular reducing the amount of energy used by services and creating alternative methods. This was evident in her chosen final year dissertation: 'Experimental Performance Analysis of an Internal Concentrated Evacuated Tubular Collector'.



### MIKE SLESSOR

Since graduating from Cambridge with an MEng and joining Buro Happold, Mike has worked on a number of significant projects, most notably in the development of the Estidama Pearl Rating System (Abu Dhabi's equivalent to LEED/BREEAM).

The work on Estidama has enabled Mike to develop his engineering knowledge, and educate key decision makers in the Middle East on the importance of sustainable design. He has also worked on a project modelling the largest district heating network planned in the UK since the early 1980s.

Mike is a qualified BREEAM Assessor and LEED Accredited Professional. He is a graduate member of CIBSE and associate member of the IMechE. Last year Mike was the energy officer on the IMechE Greater London Region Young Members Panel where he organised a number of events including a presentation outlining the London Array Offshore Wind Turbine Project.



### BEN COHEN

Ben graduated from the University of Bath in June 2009 with a first class Honorary Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering. His dissertation on 'Estimating the Net Energy and Carbon Emissions

Associated with Clustered Microgenerators in the Home' achieved a first class mark and was highly commended by the professor supervising the project.

Ben has since joined Arup as a mechanical engineer in the Building Services department in the Manchester office. He has already taken successful ownership of several projects, including a large sports arena and an international airport.

According to his employer, Ben has already demonstrated an excellent grasp of sustainable design and is well respected within the group for his knowledge of low carbon technologies. His Renewables Feasibility Report for two mental health hospitals was very well received and is now used as a standard within the company.



### MICHAEL GARDNER

Michael was awarded a first class honours degree in Building Services Engineering from Coventry University. His final year dissertation: 'Life Cycle Considerations in Boiler Room

Design' is a study of how boiler room design and sustainability concerns can be intertwined. He made the point that designs for longer life of building services plant are not recognised by sustainability indexes – saying that they should be.

"BREEAM only looks at the life cycle of a building as a whole and not the individual services. Modular boiler rooms are offered as a way of providing long life expectancies, increased reliability and ease of servicing."

Michael is seen as a very practical and down-to-earth character. His course tutor said that he contributed well in class discussions and "wouldn't let anything he didn't understand pass by him – a sign of thoroughness and an enquiring mind".



### JAMES WOOD

James was awarded a first class honours Master of Engineering (MEng) degree in Mechanical Engineering at the School of Engineering and Design, Brunel

University, in July this year.

He conducted a year-long IMechE accredited placement at Trend Marine in 2007/08, where he impressed the company with his "positive attitude and the rigour with which he conducted his duties". He then secured employment at 8build as a graduate engineering manager. Since joining the company he has been given sole responsibility for the management and delivery of the m&e commissioning of 8build's most prestigious project valued at around £15million.

According to 8Build, James has demonstrated that he is capable of transferring his technical knowledge into engineering practice. His employer describes him as a "natural leader" with excellent interpersonal skills and good time management.

