

Learn to estimate

Rethink how you plan your documentation projects



Communicator

The Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators
Autumn 2017

Explore chatbots,
podcasts and more

Create documentation
using images

20 km DUBLIN MOU
142 km WEXFO

218 km LIVERPOOL
267 km MANCHESTER

464 km
782 km

LONDON
PARIS

OSLO
STOCK

1453 km
10004 km
233 km

MAD
CAPE TO
SYDN

757 km AMSTERDAM
2798 km MOSCOW

Improve translation
and localisation

Work with marcomm



President's view

Doesn't time fly when you're having fun? I can't believe I've now been President for three years, and it's time to step down. We need new blood and fresh ideas, and although I've thoroughly enjoyed my stint — in spite of not achieving nearly as much as I'd hoped to — I'm excited to see what's next. Different people take different approaches, which is what it's all about: it's not *my* ISTC, it's *our* ISTC, and a broad representation of the membership is needed to make sure we meet everyone's needs.

I know that it can be difficult fitting in volunteer activities around work, family and other commitments, but what you get back from an organisation such as the ISTC is pretty much proportionate to what you put in. Everyone can do something, even if that something is as simple as reading *InfoPlus+* to keep abreast of changes, and mentioning the ISTC to managers and colleagues.

One of the big things I wanted to do during my term as president was to raise awareness of the ISTC within the technical communication community, and to raise awareness of technical communication in the world at large. Only you can tell me how successful (or not) that has been — I'm constantly amazed at the surprise expressed by clients at the difference having a technical communicator on the team can make!

We have a lot to be proud of

When I look back to when I first joined the ISTC, I can appreciate the sterling work done by the Council of the day, and also recognise the strides we've continued to make since then. It can be very easy to think, "Why don't they just...?" without registering that the 'just' may mean many hours of unpaid, unseen and, often, un-thanked work. I've been guilty of it myself, but also strongly believe that if you want something doing, you need to at least offer to help. Fortunately, a number of other people seem to feel the same.

We have a committed team of volunteers, which includes those who formally serve on Council and those who work extremely hard to put together regional events, attend careers fairs and provide material for the website and other promotional channels. The old adage 'Many hands make light work' is very true, and we desperately need even more volunteers to lighten the load for those we already have. We all have lives outside the ISTC!

The book has been published

In July, the ISTC published *Current Practices and Trends in Technical and Professional Communication*. The book has been edited by Stephen Crabbe, and the contributors include experienced academics and practitioners both from the UK and internationally. For more information, see the ISTC website.¹

Finally, a thank you

I want to take this opportunity to say a huge "Thank you!" to my fellow Council members for their hard work and support, to the countless other

volunteers who have worked to raise the profile of the ISTC, and to you, my fellow technical communicators, for your words of wisdom when I've asked for your help. I've learned a lot during my three-year term, and I wish my successor every success. **C**

Alison Peck FISTC

E: president@istc.org.uk

Member news

A warm welcome to all new members and to those rejoining.

New members

Member



Helen Beattie	Germany
Jo Collier	Huddersfield
James Evans	Gwent
Helen Griffith	Surrey
Holli Hamilton	Edinburgh
Oliver Howell	Falkirk
Robert Mitchell	Sevenoaks
Angela Peter	Manchester
Derek Reid-Crawford	London
Emanuela Stringa	Norfolk
Nick Whittaker	Surrey

Associate

Martin Tolovski	Macedonia
-----------------	-----------

Junior

Michael Barrett	Wakefield
Nadine Cornwall	Ely
Arlan Harris	Woodford Green

Student

Sally Johnson	The Netherlands
---------------	-----------------

Rejoiners

Associate

Bridget Walsh	Ireland
---------------	---------

Member

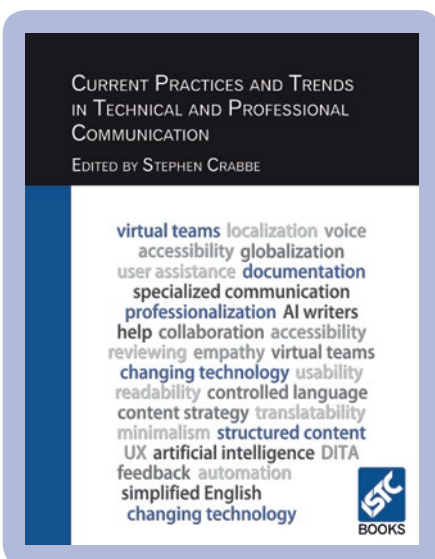


Ian Bridge	Lancashire
Andrew Sparks	Barry
Rupert St John Clarke	Norfolk

Fellow



Kevin Chilton	The Netherlands
Edward Harrod	Abergavenny



¹ www.istc.org.uk/publications-and-resources/istc-books/current-practices-and-trends-in-technical-and-professional-communication