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Excellent opportunities ahead in 2019

Welcome to 2019's first edition of *HEJ*, and after a busy 75th Anniversary year last year in which the Institute marked its foundation with a range of events, this year IHEEM and its members will be looking forward to a landmark Healthcare Estates event in Manchester in October which will run alongside the International Federation of Hospital Engineering's European conference. Speaking in his inaugural Presidential address in London in November (see pages 19-22), Ian Hinitt pointed out that Healthcare Estates 2019 would thus be an excellent opportunity to showcase 'our national treasure' - the NHS - alongside the professionalism, skills, and expertise of UK healthcare engineers and estates managers to a truly global audience. Further details on what looks set to be a really exciting show will appear in *HEJ* over coming months.

During his address, Ian Hinitt made clear that the 'Five Key Themes' championed by Pete Sellars 'resonated strongly' with him, and said he would be aiming to continue his predecessor's work in these areas, alongside focusing on a number of new ones. Having always been 'mindful of the inequalities in life', one of his priorities would be 'challenging the obvious gap in diversity and equality', not only within IHEEM's membership, but also in the wider industry. A strong advocate of apprenticeships,

Ian Hinitt told guests the Institute was especially keen to further explore working with HefmA and NHSI to establish a NHS national apprenticeship for healthcare engineers.

With effective training indeed key to the profession's long-term sustainability, Ian Hinitt noted that Pete Sellars - whose contribution and commitment he praised - had also placed considerable emphasis on strengthening IHEEM's links with academia. Prior to November's Presidential Address, he was among participants in an interesting roundtable discussion which examined how IHEEM can foster closer working with both academics researching and lecturing on building services engineering and other estates-related topics, and undergraduates studying in the field. All agreed that knowledge-sharing between universities and the healthcare estate management profession could have significant real-world benefits in, for example, enabling healthcare buildings to be more efficiently and innovatively run, although it was noted that progress could sometimes be slowed by medical ethics or data/patient privacy barriers. A full report will appear in the February and March issues of *HEJ*.

Jonathan Baillie | Editor

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COVER STORY

Your medical gas system in safe and expert hands

BeaconMedæ is a leading medical gas pipeline (MGPS) turnkey provider offering services including preventative maintenance contracts, equipment servicing, installation and commissioning, site surveys, and design services.

The company said: "Our installation team offers unrivalled experience and expertise with our products. With pre-qualification through such quality bodies as Safecontractor, CHAS, and Constructionline, you can be sure that we take health and safety and quality service seriously. BeaconMedæ has a proven track record of delivering projects on time - from major PFI projects to small extensions and refurbishments, so whatever the size of the job, we can help you out. Following installation, we can provide verification, testing and commissioning, preventative maintenance contracts, and emergency repair services.

"Medical gas service and support is central to everything we offer our customers, and we maintain the UK's largest service force dedicated exclusively to medical gas systems. We provide full mainland coverage and



emergency 24 hour call-out, so, day or night, 24-7, we have your medical gas systems covered.

"Our products are UK manufactured and CE marked in accordance with the Medical Devices Directive - including our medical air plant, medical vacuum plant, AGSS, gas manifolds, GEM terminal units, medical gas alarms, valves, and architectural products such as area zone service units, pendants, and bedhead trunking -

which also fully meet HTM 02-01 standards. Whatever services you require, your medical gas system is safe in our hands. Contact us today for any works relating to your medical gas system, and we will arrange for one of our regional sales engineers to visit site."

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