

## Council Delegates

Argentina: Oscar Vignart (virtual)  
Australia: Katherine Woodthorpe  
Canada: Robert Crawhall  
China: Xiaohong Li  
Croatia: Neven Duic  
Czech Republic: absent  
Denmark: absent  
Finland: Mika Hannula  
France: Jian Lu  
Germany: Frank Behrendt  
Hungary: Norbert Babscan  
India: Jayant Patil  
Ireland: Tom Leahy (virtual)  
Japan: Yuko Harayama  
Korea: Euijoon Yoon  
Mexico: Absent

Netherlands: Lukas Roffel  
New Zealand: Dame Jane Harding  
Nigeria: Raman Bello  
Pakistan: Nasim Khan (virtual)  
Poland: Janusz Szpytko  
Serbia: absent  
Singapore: absent  
Slovenia: Matjaz Mikos  
South Africa: TC Makikane  
Spain: absent  
Sweden: Gosta Lemne  
Switzerland: absent  
United Kingdom: Dame Sarah Springman  
United States: Tsu-Jae Liu  
Uruguay: Adrianna Gambogi

## Additional Attendees

Australia: Kylie Walker  
Australia: David Kilham  
Australia: Vaughn Beck  
China: WU Siegfried Zhiqiang  
China: Ning DING  
China: Wei Wang  
China: Hei Jinghao  
Netherlands: Lucas Noldus  
Korea: Jong Hoon Kim  
Korea: Jae-Woo Park  
Japan: Yasushi Taguchi  
India: Uday B. Desai  
India: Sivaji Chakravorti  
India: Indranil Manna  
India: Shobhit Rai

Canada: Jesse Zhu  
China: Jiang Shukai  
Germany: Karen Wagner  
Sweden: Elin Elliot  
South Africa: Felix Reinders  
New Zealand: Anthony Hoete  
US: Alton Romig  
UK: Shane McHugh  
UK: Peter Guthrie  
US: Michaela Curran  
US: Godwin Igwe  
*AAET: Hong Tat Ewe (observer)*  
*WFEO: Marlene Kanga (observer)*  
*PTCWEN: May Rose Imperial (observer)*  
*PTCWEN: Juana Tapel (observer)*

## Meeting Summary

CAETS President Katherine Woodthorpe opened the meeting at 1400, welcoming both members and observers. The Meeting Agenda was approved as presented. The Meeting Minutes from 3 July 2024 were approved as presented.

CAETS Secretary Ruth David provided a summary report from the 8 September Board Meeting. Key points included:

- The 2024 financial audit was completed without issue; a summary was provided in the meeting materials.
- 2025 year-to-date financial status is favorable, with an expectation that year-end costs will be below budget. Year-end revenues will also be below budget due to unanticipated academy resignations and reduced gains from the investment account. It is anticipated, however, that expenses will be less than total revenues.
- The 2026 Operating Budget was approved by the Board as presented; a copy was provided in Council meeting materials.
- The three policy proposals submitted to the Council all passed with 61% majority vote. A summary was provided in meeting materials. Actions taken include realignment of the CAETS rotation schedule; addition to CAETS policy of an option for a member academy to opt-out from hosting the annual meetings (move to the bottom of the rotation schedule) with a minimum of 5-years notice to the Secretariat; and establishment of an Associates Member category based on the approved criteria.
- After discussion of two member academies that have not paid dues for multiple years, the Board agreed to exercise the provision in CAETS Operating Procedures which states: "A member academy behind in dues payments for an extended period (as agreed by the Board) shall be placed on inactive status by majority vote of the Board." Notification to the academies will be co-signed by the President and the Treasurer. Absent near-term action by the academies, together with a plan to achieve and sustain paid-up status, the Board will submit a recommendation of removal from membership for consideration by the Council during its next regular meeting as prescribed in CAETS Bylaws.

The Secretary presented the 2026 Rotation Schedule, noting that Poland had moved into the 2029 slot, and Japan had been moved to Poland's prior slot. She also noted that host confirmations were in place for the next 5 years (through 2030). The Rotation Schedule was approved as presented.

The slate of 2026 Board Nominees was approved as presented, and included:

- Frank Benrendt, acatech, Germany, to complete the term of Johan-Dietrich Worner as 2025 President-elect and to serve as CAETS President in 2026.
- Lukas Roffe, NAE, Netherlands, to serve as 2026 CAETS President-Elect.
- Jayant Patil, INAE, India, to complete the term of Indranil Manna as 2025-2026 Director.
- Oscar Vignart, ANI, Argentina, to serve as 2026-2027 Director.
- Robert Crawhall, CAE, Canada, to serve as 2026-2027 Director.
- Euijoon Yoon, NAEK, Korea, to serve as 2026-2027 Director.
- KokKwang Phoon, SAEng, Singapore, to serve as 2026-2027 Director.

Updates for the 2026 and 2027 CAETS Annual Meetings were provided to the Council; copies of their presentations are attached to these minutes.

Frank Behrendt, acatech, provided an update on planning for the CAETS 2026 Annual Meetings and the Public Convocation, which will be held in Munich, Germany from 14-17 September 2026. The theme for the convocation is ***“From a distance: Earth observation for Monitoring, Comprehension and Change”***.

The planned schedule for CAETS 2026 is summarized below; additional details will be provided at [www.CAETS2026.org](http://www.CAETS2026.org).

| September 14                                    | September 15                                      | September 16               | September 17    |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Board Luncheon<br>Board of Directors<br>Meeting | Working Group<br>Meetings                         | Convocation<br>Session III | Council Meeting |
|                                                 | Convocation<br>Session I and II<br>Award Ceremony | Convocation<br>Session IV  | Technical Tour  |
| Get together for<br>interested people           | Gala Dinner                                       | Council Dinner             |                 |

Lukas Roffel, NAE, summarized preliminary plans for CAETS 2027, which will be held in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, from 27-30 September 2027. The selected theme is ***“Water: Friend and Foe”***. Additional information will be provided during the 2026 CAETS Annual Meetings.

Lucas Noldus, NAE and Chair of the CAETS Communications Committee, provided an overview of the committee and summarized its activities for the year as well as plans for 2025-2026. He noted that the committee had 47 members as of August 2025, representing 27 of 31 member academies. He summarized the 2025 Communication Prize entries, which included nominees from 10 countries, and observed the high quality of the submissions. He briefly described the committee’s engagement with the CAETS publication process, with an emphasis on supporting authors to prepare a CAETS statement based on the executive summary of each report. The Committee also continues to emphasize sharing of best practices by providing a forum for member academies to learn from each other. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes.

Peter Guthrie, RAEng and Chair of the Working Group on Engineering for Sustainability, summarized the group’s focus over the past year regarding net zero commitments by many countries which may not effectively incorporate the trade-offs against other aspects of sustainability (e.g. food security, biodiversity, equitable economic growth) which must be managed and mitigated. The group is working to produce a resource for policymakers showcasing engineering case studies on how trade-offs emerge and how they can be managed. Their timeline for publication is December 2026. Next steps include engaging the CAETS Communications Committee and Energy Working Group to ensure alignment of communications. The group will also invite more member academies to participate in this sharing of case studies. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes.

Dame Sarah Springman, RAEng, speaking on behalf of Rachel Oliver, RAEng and Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, summarized the activities of the group. She noted that the group has evolved into a community of practice, with meeting topics determined by survey data and feedback from members. Current membership includes representation from 16 member academies. The purpose of this D&I Working Group is: ***“Forum for academies to exchange on D&I issues they are facing,***

*share best practice in embedding D&I and explore the role of CAETS in improving D&I in engineering”.*

Future directions include an effort to raise the profile of the D&I WG within CAETS to expand participation and engagement. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Axel Meisen, CAE and Chair of the Energy Working Group, provided a status update for the ‘Sequel Project’ entitled “Towards LOW-GHG Emissions from Energy Use in Selected Sectors: Looking Beyond 2040”. The report is nearing completion and is expected to be available for member academy review in late 2025. He also reported that the next project to be initiated by the Energy Community is “Security of Energy Supply – Towards Reliable low-carbon Energy for All”. This effort will be led by the Indian National Academy of Engineering. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Indranil Manna, INAE and Chair of the Engineering Education Working Group, summarized the activities of the group over the past year, while also describing long term objectives. Major themes addressed to date include: post-pandemic education challenges; gender parity and mobility; accreditation practices; intellectual property; integration of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning; medium of instruction; and quality and quantity of engineers. The group compiled a summary of the “Top Ten Issues in Engineering Education” and intends to use records from EEWG meetings to create an e-Volume for future reference and wider circulation. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Barry O’Sullivan, IAE and Chair of the Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, began his presentation with a discussion of how the concept of AI has evolved over time. He noted that the topic is of great international interest and is advancing very quickly – and that any report drafted by CAETS is likely to be overtaken by events before publication. Even so, the group is developing a possible topics paper: “Engineering the Age of AI”. An interim summary is anticipated late 2025. He noted that additional progress will require both a new Chair for the Working Group and additional engagement by member academies. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes.

The CAETS President provided award certificates recognizing the following individuals for their service to CAETS:

- ❖ Mika Hannula, Council of Finnish Academies, CAETS President-Elect (2023), CAETS President (2024), CAETS Past-President (2025)
- ❖ Tian QI, Chinese Academy of Engineering, CAETS Board of Directors (2024-2025)
- ❖ Rahman Bello, Nigerian Academy of Engineering, CAETS Board of Directors (2024-2025)
- ❖ Milos Nedeljkovic, Academy of Engineering Sciences of Serbia, CAETS Board of Directors (2024-2025)
- ❖ Igor Skrjanc, Slovenian Academy of Engineering, CAETS Board of Directors (2024-2025)

There being no new business, the President adjourned the meeting at 1635.