

# International Chapter Leaders Briefing

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## Welcome to our Premier Issue!

The American Ceramic Society is pleased to provide this forum for International Chapter leaders to share information with one another and with those who are in the process of establishing a new Chapter. We will share other relevant ACerS news from time to time that specifically impacts International Chapters. Please feel free to contribute information or an article idea to [brains@ceramics.org](mailto:brains@ceramics.org).



## UK Chapter Chair Offers Planning Advice

Since its establishment in the fall of 2016, the UK Chapter, led by Eugenio Zapata-Solvas, has already held a very successful workshop in March, and has plans developed for a second event to be held in September.

To assist our newer Chapters with planning, we asked Eugenio to provide some insights on his experiences so far on developing a Chapter.

“There are two very important things to be considered in the creation of a chapter. First, existing institutions, organizations or societies are not going to help you initially, as they will see you as a threat that wants to take a portion of their cake in the ceramic market. The best way to deal with this is convince them that the chapter is a service for ACerS members in the country and that we are willing to cooperate with any existing body. There will be a bit of a fuss at the beginning, but it will die down with time.

The chair should be surrounded by people willing to help and work (secretary and treasurer). Otherwise, the work load could be too high sometimes and difficult to handle with one’s career.

Once the chapter is running, it has to create or project a friendly and useful image for the ceramic community (remember that our mission is not just to organize conferences and workshops). We are here to help, especially early career researchers, and to promote ceramics science and technology. For these purposes, I found it very useful and successful to circulate any bit of information that could be of interest for ceramists, academics, and

and industry people in the UK. Such items would include small workshops run by academy or industry to give students the chance to present their work to industry people. Other items could be from fellowship notices to job opportunities in industry and many other things that could help or be of interest to any of our ACerS members. It has been very rewarding to receive emails which say thank you after the circulation of such information. This practice engages the community with the chapter and increases the rate of participation in chapter activities.

Another thing that could seem minor but equally important is to open an account to manage the funding. In the UK we had problems doing it through our institution as the ACerS funding is not a big amount, so we are still in the process to opening a business bank account to manage ACerS funds.”

### International Chapter Leadership

#### India Chapter

Chair : [Lalit Kumar Sharma](#)

Secretary: [Manoharan Ganapathy](#)

Treasurer: [Laskshimi Narayan Satapathy](#)

#### Italy Chapter

Co-Chairs: [Monica Ferraris](#) and [Paolo Colombo](#)

Co-Secretaries: [Valentina Casalegno](#) and [Enrico Bernardo](#)

Treasurer: [Milena Salvo](#)

#### UK Chapter

Chair: [Eugenio Zapata-Solvas](#)

Secretary: [Theresa Davey](#)

Treasurer: [Luc Vandeperre](#)

