

Dr Fiona Rayment, OBE CChem FRSC FNucl

Dr. Fiona Rayment OBE and Fellow of the Nuclear Institute since 2014, is an excellent exemplar of nuclear professionalism. As an internationally recognised Subject Matter Expert, Dr. Rayment is a nuclear professional at the top of her game. With an impressive career spanning three decades in the UK and international nuclear industry, Dr. Rayment is currently a Director with NNL, and as part of NNL's Executive team is leading on Government related programmes.

In addition to strategic and operational responsibilities as Director at NNL, Dr. Rayment also contributes to a staggering array of organisations, holding Board positions across the industry, and contributing regularly to international nuclear conferences, the media and parliamentary committees and consultations.

Route into nuclear

Dr. Rayment, a chartered Chemist by background believes she was destined to join the nuclear industry, having expressed an early interest in 1988 during her time as a undergraduate at the University of Strathclyde, where she achieved her BSc (Honours) and her PhD in Chemistry.

"My interest in nuclear stemmed from an interest in clean energy and the work being done in nuclear medicine for cancer therapy" she says,

"following my PhD I knew that wanted to join the industry, and succeeded in securing a research role at BNFL. I have never looked back since then..."

Following a successful decade at BNFL in various technical and commercial roles, Dr Rayment moved to Nexia Solutions plc, (later part of NNL) and in 2006 was appointed Head of Technology at NNL, moving five years later to her role as Director of Fuel Cycle Solutions and more recently taking on her current role as Director (TBD).

Nuclear professionalism

Achieving professional status was always a prized goal for Dr. Rayment, both within the nuclear industry, as well as her chosen discipline of chemistry (she is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry).

"From the start of my career I was interested in professional accreditation. The nuclear industry has its own unique requirements, which are expressed in the Nuclear Institute's standard, the Nuclear Delta. It was important for me to gain recognition, both as a Chemist and Nuclear Professional. I was keen to progress right to the top of my profession."

Dr. Rayment certainly did this, moving from professional membership with both Institutes, to achieve her Fellowship with the Nuclear Institute in 2014 and the early 2000's from the Royal Society of Chemistry. She also holds an MBA from Manchester Business School.

Dr Rayment has the following advice for others in the industry:

"Make the achievement of professional status a clear goal within your development plan. Within the nuclear industry, professional recognition is a valued badge, and signifies personal investment and commitment to the standards and values of the industry. It is also a record of personal achievement."



"A nuclear professional at the top of her game."

Board / Advisory positions

- Nuclear Skills Strategy Group
- The Nuclear Institute
- Research Council UK Fusion Advisory Panel at the ONR
- The American Nuclear Society International Committee
- Idaho National Laboratory's Nuclear Science and Technology Advisory Committee
- Energy Systems Catapult

Supporting employee development

Dr Rayment's employer, NNL also supports the drive for professional recognition for all levels of employees. As part of its career development process, NNL encourages professional membership through to fellowship.

"Professional recognition through the Nuclear Institute is a key part of our approach to developing employees and encouraging pride and responsibility in becoming a nuclear professional. "

(Liane White, Talent and Development Director, NNL)

NNL is piloting the Nuclear Institute's new Company Membership Scheme with a small group of employees in 2017.