

Strengthening the Partnership between IFCC and its Corporate Members

Graham H Beastall

gbeastall@googlemail.com

Criteria to be a Corporate Member



- Broad membership criteria:
 - “open to any organisation that manufactures products or offers services in the field of clinical laboratory science”
- Current Corporate Members
 - Diagnostic equipment and reagent manufacturers
 - Pharma companies
 - Commercial laboratory networks
- Potential new Corporate Members
 - Pharma companies
 - Laboratory informatics companies

Stating the obvious



- Companies will only consider becoming IFCC Corporate Members if they can identify benefit from the relationship

Put another way

- IFCC cannot expect new companies to become Corporate Members unless it can offer them benefit from the relationship

Current benefits of Corporate Membership



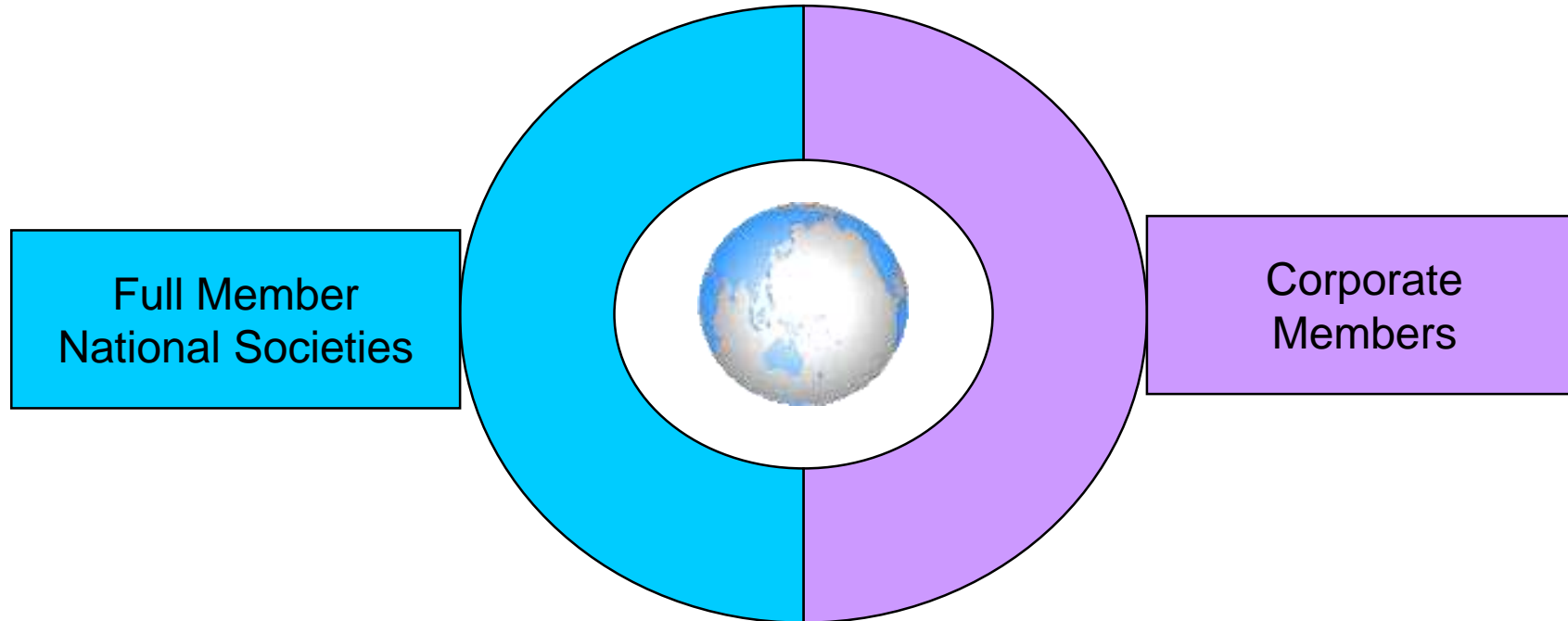
- Two-way communication across all IFCC channels
- Representation on the IFCC Executive Board and the three Division Executive Committees
- Opportunity to become members of IFCC Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups
- Opportunity to propose new work streams for IFCC
- Discounted fees for participation at IFCC congresses

IFCC perceptions of the relationship



- ‘OK but could be better’
- Limited engagement in areas currently open to Corporate Members
 - Is this out of choice or because the opportunities are not attractive?
 - Do the current opportunities restrict interest in Corporate Membership?
- Communication is often poor
 - Is it realistic to expect one person to act as Company contact?
- Some Corporate Members appear to believe that IFCC is only interested financial support
 - Is this because of the way that IFCC communicates?

IFCC Membership – a ‘classic’ slide



Equal partners in IFCC

Corporate Member perceptions

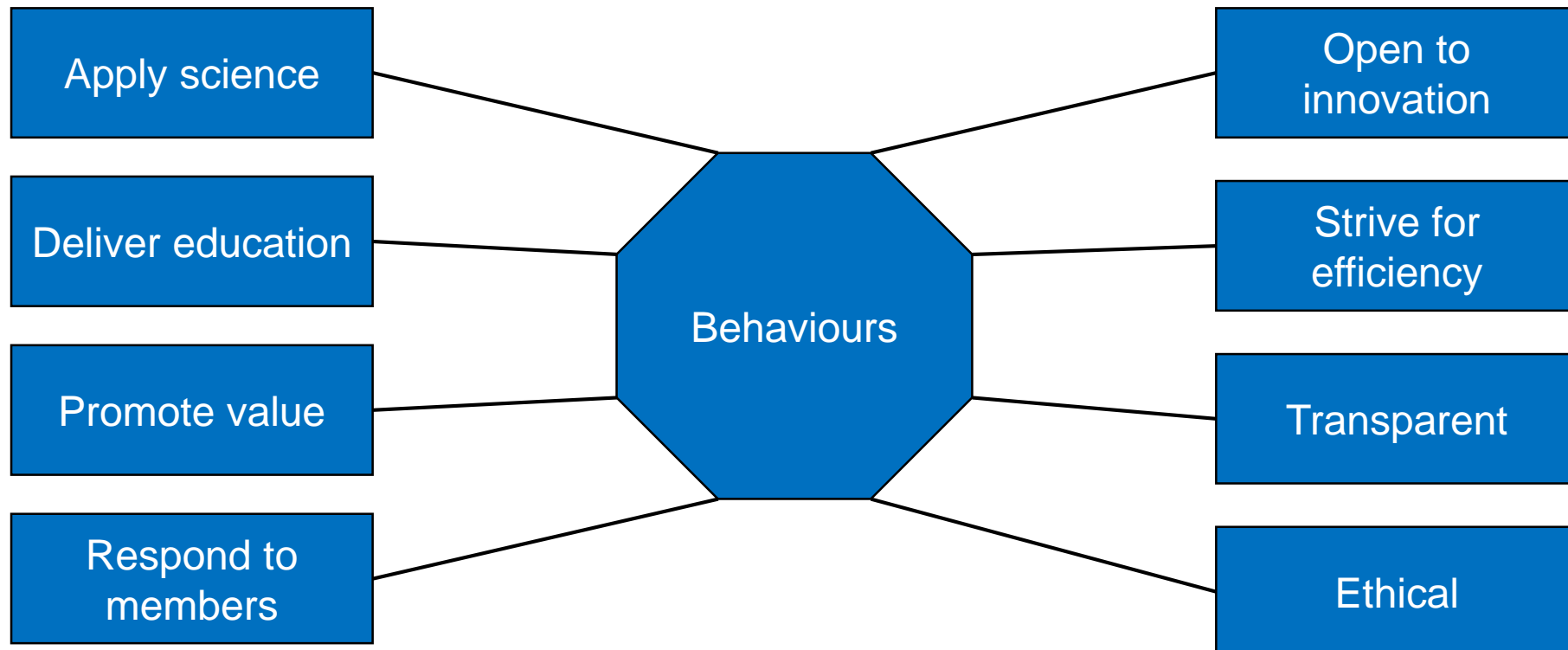


- Best provided by the Corporate Member representative
- However, 'could be better' would not be a surprise
- Stimulated discussion at the two-day IFCC strategy meeting
 - January 2016
 - Externally facilitated
 - Executive Board, Division Chairs, Regional Presidents, Corporate Member representatives, staff

Strategy meeting: high level messages



Vision: We advance excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide



Interpreting the vision: Corporate Members



Possible ways to strengthen relationship with IFCC

1. Create a joint discussion forum to identify and progress topics and projects that relate to the future of laboratory medicine
2. Open up IFCC membership to more national societies and wider fields of laboratory medicine
3. Joint promotion of the value of laboratory medicine and its contribution to improving healthcare
4. Greater collaboration with international clinical organisations

Interpreting the vision: Corporate Members



Possible ways to strengthen relationship with IFCC

5. Collaborate on general scientific issues such as understanding traceability; nomenclature; reference intervals
6. Collaborate on innovation projects, including those nominated by Corporate Members
7. Consider sub-groups of Corporate Members to allow for more focussed collaboration with IFCC
8. Agree how the MedTech Code of Ethical Business Practice can be applied to provide educational support, especially to developing countries. Is there a link with the *Foundation for Emerging Nations*?

Interpreting the vision: Corporate Members



Possible ways to strengthen relationship with IFCC

- Corporate Members should produce their 'wish list' of increased benefit from being an IFCC Corporate Member
- Bring all ideas together and crystallise them into a joint Action Plan

