

future events

A more comprehensive listing of events can be found on our website: www.engsc.ac.uk/nefl/events/

6 February 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event

HE in FE: The impact on the College Curriculum of the Engineering Diploma
Woodlands Campus, Solihull College

19 February 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event

Supporting Engineering and Physical Science Students: A Workshop for Demonstrators
Northumbria University

20 February 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event

Supporting Engineering and Physical Science Students: A Workshop for Demonstrators
Sheffield Hallam University

26 February 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event

Supporting Engineering and Physical Science Students: A Workshop for Demonstrators
University of Bath

10 March 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event with the Centre for Excellence in Preparing for Academic Practice

Changing Academic Practice: Implications for Current and Future Engineering Academics
University of Oxford

6 - 9 April 2008

SEFI MWG, IMA and the Engineering Subject Centre

The Mathematical Education of Engineers
Loughborough University

10 - 11 April 2008

Engineering Subject Centre Event

PhD/Postdocs Introduction to Teaching, Learning and Assessment
Cranfield University

20 - 23 May 2008

IACEE

11th World Conference on Continuing Engineering Education: Preparing Engineering Leaders for Global Challenges
Georgia Tech, Atlanta

18-19 June 2008

The Third International Blended Learning Conference: "Enhancing the Student Experience"

University of Hertfordshire

22-25 June 2008

2008 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition
Pittsburgh, USA

1-3 July 2008

Higher Education Academy Annual Conference: "Transforming the Student Experience"

Harrogate

2 - 5 July 2008

SEFI 36th Annual Conference: Quality Assessment, Employability, Innovation
Aalborg, Denmark

14 - 16 July 2008

EE2008 - International Conference on Innovation, Good Practice and Research in Engineering Education

Loughborough University



HE and the Workplace: supporting employer engagement in engineering and physical science

This conference, held in London on 15 January, was the culmination of an employer engagement project, 'Engage', that has sought to facilitate dialogue between employers and academics and to develop an understanding of the higher level skills agenda relating to engineering, physical sciences and materials.

Over 80 delegates from industry, academia, professional bodies and sector skills councils came together to get an overview of the various drivers for employer engagement within higher education, with a specific focus on engineering and physical science. Sir David Melville, Chair of Lifelong Learning UK and Universities Vocational Awards Council, described the implications of the Leitch Review of Skills (2006) for higher education and the challenges of work-based learning in his keynote speech.

Mike Pilbeam, Vice President of Cisco Systems, gave a challenging presentation from his perspective as an employer. He stated that "it is vital that every member of the Cisco technical team is on a path of continuous education and improvement" and challenged universities to be more responsive and flexible in the provision that they can offer to industry and 'to speak English'.

Delegates also learnt about the perspectives of the Higher Education Funding Council for England, the Engineering Council UK and of two students who talked about the benefits and conflicts of work-based learning.

Parallel sessions in the afternoon provided an opportunity for research and exemplary activities to be discussed. Finally, a panel of experts answered questions from delegates that had been collected during the day.

The conference website (www.engsc.ac.uk/engageconf/) has speakers' presentations, videos, photos, sound-bites and a record of discussions throughout the day. The 'blog', facilitated by the Engineering Subject Centre as the project lead, will continue to run after the conference as a facility for debate about how universities and industry can work together.



Mike Pilbeam, Freda Tallantyre and Sir David Melville



Panel members take questions from the floor

about

The Higher Education Academy **Engineering Subject Centre** provides support for all UK Engineering academics to enhance quality learning and teaching in Engineering.

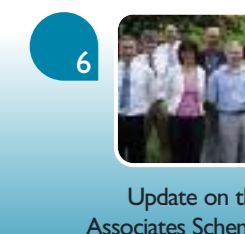
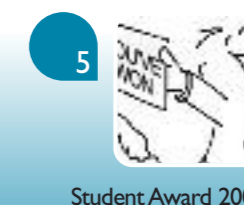
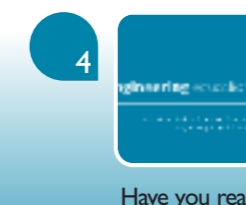
If you would like to express your own opinions on this edition of translate, then please write to us at: enquiries@engsc.ac.uk

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Engineering Subject Centre HE in FE Teaching Award Winner

supported by the New Engineering Foundation

The Engineering Subject Centre HE in FE Teaching Award showcases the commitment, imagination and innovation shown in the delivery of Higher Nationals, Foundation Degrees and other undergraduate programmes in further education colleges covering engineering and its related subject areas such as technology and mathematics.



This award, which is attracting an increasing number of nominations each year, provides an opportunity for lecturers in further education colleges to receive national recognition for their outstanding learning and teaching practices. It prompted the panel to reward all three finalists in recognition of the difficulties involved in making the final decision. This year's winner is Hull College's Rose Papworth who was presented with her certificate and cheque for £500 by radio and television presenter Maggie Philbin during the New Engineering Foundation's Annual Seminar and Award Ceremony at the Institute of Directors, held in London on 9 January 2008.

Rose was nominated for her significant contribution to developing and supporting Information and Learning Technology within Hull College, the major role she's had in the development of several new HE programmes and her outstanding level of student support.

Rose's development of Elgg for tracking and recording various aspects of HE students' programmes means that students are now able to receive both formative and summative feedback on their work placement development, regardless of geographical location. This is located in one, easily accessible web-based area, instead of being distributed around various paper-based documents. Students can communicate with the unit tutor, the employer and each other via the web-based area and, by having online discussions and mentor training, geographical and time constraints are bypassed. The tutors responsible for the work placements still visit employers, but they

are now able to access feedback on how students are progressing on a much more immediate basis. More details of the project can be found at:

www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme_elearning_capital/el_heinfe/helpp.aspx

The two other finalists, who received certificates and cheques for £150, were Solihull College's Cyrus Fardaghaie and Chris Phillipson from Lincoln College.

Further details of the award, and information about all three finalists, can be found on the HE in FE pages of the Engineering Subject Centre website at www.engsc.ac.uk/heinfe/index.asp



Maggie Philbin (left) with winner Rose Papworth (right)



Discover the place where science comes to life

This academic year the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) has transformed and extended the renowned Faraday lecture series into a year long programme of activities.

The dynamic new format enables the IET to bring engineering to life, showcase the latest technology developments and reach an even wider audience. For the first time they are using a variety of new media and events to capture the imagination of students and teachers alike.

IET Faraday 2008 features specially commissioned short films, challenges and resources. This year's Faraday theme 'Technology for Life' looks at life-saving innovations in modern healthcare technology from performance enhancing prosthetics for paraplegic athletes to machines that can read your mind.

Dr Jack, a TV presenter and neuroscientist, has been recruited as the charismatic face of Faraday. He features across the four introductory short films that illustrate how scientists and engineers working in healthcare use the latest technology in their daily working lives.

To explore the world of engineering in health, visit www.theiet.org/faraday



The Higher Education Academy News



Academy Exchange

The winter issue of Academy Exchange is available from the Academy's website. Published three times a year, it encourages the exchange of ideas, practices, news and support on learning and teaching issues. Each issue examines a different theme and hopes to inspire change and contribute to the enhancement of the student learning experience. The focus of the latest issue is excellence.

www.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/publications/exchange

Senior Fellows announced

Fourteen academics were given the title of Senior Fellow for providing outstanding leadership in teaching and supporting the student learning experience in higher education. Professor Paul Ramsden, the Chief Executive of the Higher Education Academy said that: "This important accolade recognises the enormous contribution made to higher education by a number of our leading academics."

The full list of Senior Fellows is available from the Academy's website

www.heacademy.ac.uk/news/detail/first_senior_fellows

NTFS Individual Awards

Nominations for the NTFS (Individual) 2008 are now open and the application pack is available to download. The deadline for receipt of electronic copies of the core nomination documents is 12:00 noon on Wednesday 12 March 2008.

www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/professional/ntfs/individual

Annual Conference

The Academy's 2008 conference, "Transforming the student experience", is taking place 1-3 July 2008 at the Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate. The conference themes are: Policy and Leadership; Student Feedback and Engagement; Learning and Teaching; Employment, Entrepreneurship and Recruitment; Internationalisation and Assessment.

www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/conference

Case Studies in Engineering Ethics

In partnership with the Engineering Subject Centre and the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Engineering (engCETL), the Interdisciplinary Ethics Applied (IDEA CETL) has developed a series of case studies to use when teaching ethics to student groups. The case studies are available to freely download and view from the Engineering Subject Centre website.

To date, ten resources for teaching engineering ethics have been produced. The topics are varied and include issues such as: professionalism; working for the defence industry; intellectual property; health and safety in the workplace; environment and heritage and public duty.

The case studies contain guidance for the lecturer about the suggested teaching format (for instance, how long the session may last and the size of group), practicalities (whether or not the student group has any experience of studying ethics before) and intended learning outcomes.

IDEA CETL project officer, Dr Heather Fotheringham, is keen to hear from academics who plan to use the case studies in their teaching. She would also like to hear from those who would like to submit their own ideas for additional case studies. Heather's contact details at the IDEA CETL, University of Leeds and access to all the case studies may be found on the Engineering Subject Centre's Ethics Case Studies web pages: www.engsc.ac.uk/er/ethics/ethicscases.asp



Subject Centre News



Welcome back to Kate Hargreaves, who has been away temporarily on maternity leave. Kate rejoins us to take on the role of Publications Assistant.

Glenda McMahon has been appointed as our new Centre Assistant, working two days per week to assist Kate Everest with the events programme and the EE2008 conference.

Progress on EE2008 conference, 14-16 July

Abstracts of 84 papers and 12 workshops have been accepted with full papers expected for review by the beginning of February. We are pleased to announce that the three keynote speakers are:

- **Dr. Norman L. Fortenberry**, founding Director of the Center for the Advancement of Scholarship on Engineering Education (CASEE) at the National Academy of Engineering (NAE)
- **Professor Ian Cameron**, Senior Fellow, Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, University of Queensland

- **Professor Matthew Harrison**, Director of Education Programmes at the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Event announcement

Changing Academic Practice: Implications for Current and Future Engineering Academics will be held on Monday 10 March 2008 at the University of Oxford.

It will be a day of discussion on the nature of academic careers in Engineering sponsored by the Higher Education Academy Engineering Subject Centre and the Centre for Excellence in Preparing for Academic Practice CETL, University of Oxford. The event is intended to draw together Engineering doctoral students, postdoctoral students and new and experienced academics to explore and discuss challenges and opportunities for those wishing to prepare for an academic career. The day will allow for a shared awareness of what Academic Practice currently means in the context of the Engineering to be developed. The outcomes are intended to inform efforts to support the next generation of academic staff and those holding new appointments to academic roles. To book for this event please visit www.engsc.ac.uk/events/changing-academic-practice.asp

Engineering Subject Centre Student Award 2008

Could your students use £250? Would they like the chance to win a Toshiba laptop?

Would they like the opportunity to express their views on 'what makes a good Engineering lecturer?'

Well here's their chance!

The Higher Education Academy Engineering Subject Centre is offering students the chance to submit their thoughts in an essay of around 1,000 words with the following title: "What makes a good Engineering lecturer?"

The winner will receive £250, be published on the Centre's nationally recognised website and represent Engineering in the UK-wide competition. This offers a top prize of a Toshiba laptop and all expenses paid attendance at the Higher Education Academy's Annual Conference in July 2008.

Further information is available from www.engsc.ac.uk/us/fundopps/student_awards.asp, essays should be submitted to enquiries@engsc.ac.uk by 28 March 2008



TOSHIBA

Have you read?

Several Subject Centre Case Studies have been published since the last issue of translate

The Enterprising Engineer, by Glynis Perkin

This details a three day event at Loughborough University which was designed to be of equal benefit to students intending to enter university and students intending to start up their own business. www.engsc.ac.uk/downloads/Entre/enterprising-engineer.pdf

Preparing students for the world of work, by Professor Barry Clarke

This case study describes a module that was introduced into a civil engineering degree programme at Newcastle University with the help of professional engineers. The aim was to develop a bridge between the world of learning and professional practice by putting students into the role of consulting engineers working with industry to produce feasible solutions to a real enquiry from a client. www.aloe.ac.uk/docs/b-clarke-case-study-web.pdf

Introducing research methods and skills in a workshop environment, by Professor Ray Sheriff

This is based on a 'Research Seminar Series' module offered to MSc/MEng students in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of Bradford. It considers the introduction of research methods and skills in a workshop environment. www.engsc.ac.uk/downloads/sheriff-case-study.pdf

Assessing the student dropout rate in engineering through induction of students with interactive gaming, by Kevin Curran and Kieran Forbes

This case study presents an interactive student game used at the University of Ulster, designed to provide new students with information that will help them settle more effectively into university. It addresses the themes of student retention and induction. www.engsc.ac.uk/downloads/interactive-gaming.pdf

Mini Project recipient Roger Penlington, of Northumbria University, produced a report regarding the wider teaching of sustainability based upon student perceptions and the expectations of professional bodies.

The report examines student views, perceptions, attitudes and experiences of the teaching of sustainability. The findings are considered alongside the expectations of professional bodies and those setting the agenda for sustainability within engineering education. www.engsc.ac.uk/downloads/scholarart/penlington-sustainability-report.pdf

Book reviews

Recently published book reviews were by Adele Aubrey (Personal Tutoring in Higher Education); Dr Allen Clegg (Greener by Degrees); Dr Monjur Mourshed (Engineering Design Methods); Dr Martin Pitt (Guide to Writing as an Engineer and Chemical Micro Process Engineering) and Lynsey Plockyn (Engineering Design Methods). All reviews (listed alphabetically by title) are available from www.engsc.ac.uk/er/bkrev/reviewedbks.asp

Look out for new books to review over the coming months: www.engsc.ac.uk/er/bkrev/available.asp

Engineering Education Volume 2 Issue 2

The latest issue of our journal is available in print format and on the website as pdfs and html. An added attraction of Volume 2 Issue 2 is the availability of short presentations by several of the authors to accompany their papers. We are very grateful to the authors for their willingness to prepare and contribute these additional features and hope that readers have enjoyed them. See for yourself by accessing the journal contents for 2:2 at www.engsc.ac.uk/journal



Update on the Associates Scheme

The Associates Scheme was introduced in June 2006 to expand the expertise that the Engineering Subject Centre can offer to the engineering education community. Associates have been appointed for a three year term subject to an annual review. It seems timely for us to update the community on the associates and the work they have been doing with the Centre in the last 18 months and to give a flavour of work to come.

The scheme currently has nine members (Peter Ball, Clara Davies, Andrew McLaren, Ivan Moore, Anna Peachey, Roger Penlington, Martin Pitt, Elaine Smith and Alan Webb), ranging from engineering academics to learning technology specialists and educational developers based in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The work of the associates complements the activities of Centre staff and enables the associates to use their own areas of expertise to increase the Centre's footprint within the engineering education community across the UK. Each associate is assigned a Centre staff member to coordinate their work plan and support them in their activities as part of the Subject Centre team.

In October 2007 a formative evaluation of the Associates Scheme was undertaken and the strengths were celebrated and areas for future development were identified. This involved interviews with Subject Centre staff and associates around their experiences and expectations for the future of the scheme. All reported a very positive experience from their involvement with it. All valued the friendly atmosphere surrounding the scheme from the support in place. Additionally the associates welcomed the opportunity to engage in engineering education beyond their institution. Areas to work on have been identified as a provision of opportunities for associates to work more closely with each other on initiatives and the Centre has responded by allowing a closer sharing of interests. It is hoped some more collaborative projects will result from this.

Examples of contributions to date include working on the co-delivery of the new lecturers' teaching and learning workshop held at least once a year. Associates have also worked on development of resources and advised the Centre on areas of expertise, for example e-learning and the work of the CETLs. There have also been a number of workshops run by the associates in their areas of expertise such as design, project work, learning outcomes and personal tutoring. Through our contacts in Scotland and Northern Ireland, associates have also contributed greatly to the Centre's activities by keeping us abreast of country-specific learning and

teaching debates. Upcoming work from the associates includes further support of the new lecturers' workshop as well as a similarly designed workshop for PhD and post-doctoral students. Workshops on learning technologies, supporting masters students, enquiry-based learning and feedback are just some of the events planned for the future year. Resources looking at feedback and learning technologies within engineering education are also scheduled.

We are still looking to appoint a tenth associate to the scheme based at a Welsh HEI. If you or a colleague are interested in finding out more about this please contact Jane Pritchard for further details.
Email: jane@engsc.ac.uk



The Engineering Subject Centre's Associates

Out and About

Workshop on Peer Assessment in Engineering and Physical Sciences, 21 November 2007, Loughborough University

"The peer assessment workshop was very useful to get an idea of methods of peer assessment, but more importantly to get an idea of what the benefits and limitations of peer assessment are from the viewpoint of both lecturer and students."

The event provided an opportunity for over 35 academics from Engineering and Physical Sciences disciplines to find out more about peer assessment. Benefits to the tutor were identified, including reduction in the time spent on marking, but evidence was also presented that peer assessment can enhance the student learning experience. Delegates were able to learn from other academics about the different approaches taken, but the highlight of the event was perhaps hearing from four students about their views and experiences of peer assessment.

The event was hosted by the JISC funded WebPA project at the engCETL, Loughborough University, and there was an opportunity to find out more about the development of an open source version of an existing online peer moderated marking system for the assessment of group work.



Delegates experience peer assessment for themselves



Delegates prepare for a practical task

Writing for publication

7 December 2007, engCETL, Loughborough University

"A very practical event which left us feeling energised and enabled to go away and start writing. One of the best training courses I have been on in a long time."

Writing for Publication was a one-day workshop run jointly by the Engineering Subject Centre and the Subject Centre for Information and Computer Sciences. It covered the writing process; writing for conferences; writing for research; the submission process; and hints and tips for successful publication.



Kate Everest welcomes delegates to JCB

The 14 to 19 Diploma in Engineering – an overview for HE

30 October 2007, JCB World Headquarters, near Uttoxeter, Staffordshire

"Seventy of the great and the good of the engineering community convened to grapple with the many aspects of the coming 14-19 Diploma; especially the advanced Diploma in Engineering...A stimulating day, heralding this welcome initiative which all hope would re-establish Engineering as a flagship subject in the classroom."

This workshop was aimed at those involved in admissions and first year teaching on Engineering degrees.



Presentations from this and other workshops run by the Engineering Subject Centre are available at www.engsc.ac.uk/nefl/events/past_events.asp