



The
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Sheffield.

Technicians'
Network
@ Sheffield.

Making our jobs easier

HEaTED Regional Event

Yorkshire and North East

Thursday 19th June 2014



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An Introduction to TechNet – Who are we?

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Why?

Faculty Professional Staff Development Day – Nov 2013

- Need for a technical networking group accessible across all faculties
- Technical staff often work alongside each other in their roles but never actually speak to their counterparts!
- A networking group would provide a medium in which those individuals could share experiences, mentoring opportunities, good practice & support one another.



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Aims

- “By Technicians, For Technicians”
- Create a technical community, both within UoS as well as reaching out nationally and internationally
- Be inclusive and flexible
- Raise awareness of technicians, their value in the scientific community and role in grant income capture
- Promote good professional conduct
- Promote professional registration



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How?

- Created an “expression of interest” online form – feedback was very positive
- Booked a date and venue
- Worked with Faculty Communications staff to decide the best way to capture registrants
 - i. webpages dedicated to the event**
 - ii. posters advertising the event**
 - iii. online registration form**
 - iv. promotion of the website: <http://technicians-network.net>**
 - v. dedicated Twitter account @Your_TechNet**



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TechNet First Meeting – 17th March 2014

An overwhelming response – 104 attendees!

- Introduction and lunch
- Informal networking activity
- Polling activity using turning point technology



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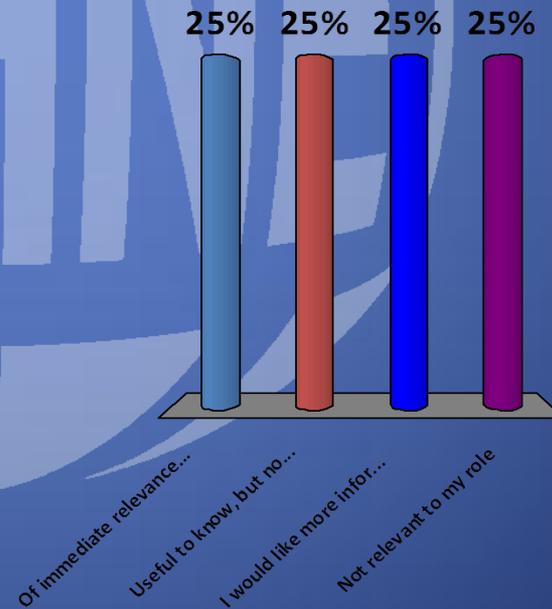


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What Do Technicians Want?

Professional Registration help and advice

- A. Of immediate relevance to my role
- B. Useful to know, but not immediately relevant
- C. I would like more information
- D. Not relevant to my role





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Outcome Of Our First Event

Future TechNet sessions will focus on:

- **Strengthening cross faculty links**
- Increasing profile and awareness of technical careers as a professional career pathway
- **Improve training and opportunity for personal development**



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- Create opportunities to share equipment across faculty
- Support staff wishing to achieve professional registration
- Laboratory “exchange” visits to share best practice
- Creation of a steering group which includes individuals from diverse backgrounds from across faculty to aid in direction and planning of future TechNet events
- Creation of TechNet executive group to provide a lead role in support for future events



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TechNet Future Events

- Future events are self perpetuating – use feedback from one meeting to inform content of the next. This is a tried and tested approach and works well for other support groups
- TechNet is “by technicians, for technicians” – the diverse expertise and experience from within the network will be utilized where available and applicable for future sessions
- Sessions are a mix of information sessions and practical training
- Meetings are held quarterly at different locations and on different days across campus



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Thanks for listening!

Any Questions?

Follow us on Twitter @Your_TechNet

Acknowledgements



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