

HEaTED Regional Network Event – Event Report

Region: North East

Date: 6 November 2014

Venue: Northumbria University, Great Hall, Sutherland Building, Newcastle upon Tyne

Agenda:

10.30 am Welcome and Introductions – Linda Robinson, North East Regional Co-ordinator

10.45 am Professional Registration – my journey: Krystena Callaghan, Laboratory Technician, Newcastle University

11.15am Benefits of Professional Registration – Emily Brown, Science Council

12.30 pm Lunch and networking – various awarding body representatives to attend

1.15 pm HEaTED Update – James Nobes, HEaTED Membership & Networks Manager

1.45 pm Date/venue/themes for next NE regional meeting and evaluation

2.00 pm Tour of Northumbria University's Applied Sciences, Engineering and Environment and Arts and Design technical areas

3.00 pm Close

A copy of the presentation slides used at today's event can be found in the North East Region [Online Group](#) with the event report.

Welcome and Introduction

Linda Robinson welcomed those attending event and explained agenda. A short icebreaker took place.

Professional Registration – my journey: Krystena Callaghan, Laboratory Technician, Newcastle University

Krystena explained that discussions on professional registration first began at a PDR meeting with her line manager. The reason she decided to apply for the professional registration was because of a) generalisation of job role and b) recognition.

The role of a Technician can vary. To be given an official title within the industry is a good way of being recognised and to receive recognition. We need to drive the recognition to the top.

The application process has 3 steps:-

- 1) Join a Licenced Body
- 2) Complete and submit form
- 3) Keep an annual CPD record

Krystena explained that she found the awarding bodies helpful in advising on level of registration. The IST can mentor you to complete the form. Although the registration process can be time consuming – it is informative and is good to reflect

What is gained?

- 1) Opening of new doors
- 2) Hopefully will help with career progression

Linda introduced Kevin Oxley from Institute of Science & Technology, Jon Day from Society of Biology and Emily Brown from Science Council and encouraged attendees to network over lunch.

Benefits of Professional Registration – Emily Brown, Science Council

Emily informed delegates that they join the body which is relevant to them and their experiences, then decide on the level e.g. Registered Science Technician (RSciTech) Registered Scientist (RSci) Chartered Scientist (CSc).

How to apply

There is only one form in the common application process and you only need to state the body you want to apply for. The forms are distributed to the relevant body. Assessors may come to your work place to help you complete the application process (if there is a group of people).

Why Registration is good for you

- Recognition
- Knowledge and competence
- Demonstrate professionalism
- Recognition beyond work place and employers (e.g. job application)
- Part of growing community
- Good for organisation
- Support for development
- A benchmark across department, sections and roles

There have been 1,000 applications in a short period of time.

Application Tips

- What, how and why
- We are looking at what YOU have done
- Use examples from recent experience
- Have you answered the question?
- Read through your work

HEaTED Update – James Nobes, HEaTED Membership & Networks Manager

James thanked participants for attending and provided an overview of HEaTED and his role.

Overview

- What is HEaTED
- How can HEaTED support your development
- Supporting Professional Registration

What is HEaTED

HEaTED Membership is free and there are already 77 active members from different Institutions and over 3,400 staff signed up.

James went through the HEaTED website and what is available to attendees.

How can HEaTED Support your development – Network Grants

There are 2 arms to Network Grants.

Arm 1 – Training and Development. James went through the options e.g. on-line, tailored delivery etc. James stressed that the website has some useful Guides in the Library that are available to members. Becoming a Course provider through HEaTED you will have access to all members on the website.

Arm 2 – Regional Networks. There are a number of HEaTED Online Groups that gives members the opportunity to share and ask questions.

HEaTED Competency Assessment Toolkit for Technical Staff (CATTS):

HEaTED has received many requests for help with organisational and individual performance assessment. In response to this and a wider UK need, we have developed a new resource exclusively for HEaTED members.

The CATTS resource has been designed to change the way that the professional technicians in HE (and FE) explore performance. It provides a benchmark for all professionals (regardless of specialism or discipline) of their current competencies, development areas, and future direction. The aims of the resource are covered in detail in the slides.

The toolkit recognises each discipline on a competency related basis. The Toolkit is evidence based and allows for skills mapping and skills gap identification across your Institution. The CATTS is a resource/toolkit for continual monitoring, assessment and development.

There are 5 key competency areas as modules:

1. Professional Practice
2. The Student Experience
3. Leadership & Management
4. Planning and Organising Resources
5. Governance and compliance (incl.H&S)

There are 5 levels of competency for the reviewee to be matched against:

1. Learner
2. Experimentalist
3. Practitioner
4. Specialist
5. Expert

An example of one of the modules (Student Experience) was showcased.

The resource is now for sale at £250 for HEaTED member institutions and £450 for non-member. There will be a HEaTED [Online Community Group](#) to support this resource where members can share their experiences.

ACTION: ALL – book to attend training courses or contact HEaTED if you wish to host an on-demand course.

ACTION: ALL - Ask your colleagues, team members and other network groups (Unions and Staff Developers) to register independently on the HEaTED website to ensure everyone receives information direct from HEaTED and can take full advantage of your Institution's Membership.

ACTION: ALL – if you would like to host a HEaTED course at your Institution contact admin@heated.ac.uk

ACTION: If you would like further information on the CATTs please contact Rachel Crossley, r.crossley@slcs.ac.uk

ACTION: Use the [Online Community Group](#) to make comments and feedback on what you have heard today.

Next event

Next North East Event – TBC

Ideas for themes:-

- Evolution of Science (behind the scenes museum tour)
- Brewery Tour (Science behind brewing)
- Technicians in the food industry
- Public engagement in Science
- The National crime agency (tasters)
- Networking
- The role of an Art technician/Sunderland Glass Museum (or ask Abigail)
- Promoting Professional registration to academic staff
- Beyond Science bring a friend from another discipline
- Emerging Technology in Education
- Something like the TED talks
- Cutting edge technology
- Historical Industries of the North East
- Quality Assurance & Accreditation
- Workshop on completing forms for registration
- Health & safety
- CPD and reflective practice – personal development
- PDRs and how to make them work for you
- Assessing competence
- Comparison to EU Universities
- Completion of Risk Assessment & COSHH
- Recruitment & Retention
- Novel Science – emerging technologies
- Nanotechnology
- Lenti-vital work
- FACs
- Career Development
- Interactive sessions between technicians to meet each other and discuss competencies