

HEaTED Regional Network Event – Event Report

Region: East Midlands

Date: 30/03/15

Venue: University of Derby

Agenda:

09:30 – 10:00 Arrival refreshments and registration

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Introduction (including intended outcomes) - Amrat Khorana, HEaTED East Midlands Regional Network Coordinator

10:15 – 10:45 HEaTED Update - James Nobes, HEaTED Membership and Networks Manager All the latest Regional and National updates from HEaTED, including how HEaTED connects with Professional Registration.

10:45 – 11:15 Peter Beaman, Senior Social Psychology Technician Loughborough University – In follow up to the “raising the profile” workshop at De Montfort, Peter offers feedback on an experiment he conducted at Loughborough.

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee/tea

11:30 – 12:00 Isobel Hogg, Royal Society of Chemistry – Overview of Professional Registration

12:00 – 12:15 Martyn Balmont, Technician Assistant School of Pharmacy University of Lincoln – talks about his experience of Professional Registration

12:15 – 12:45 Lunch and networking

12:45 – 13:15 Informal discussions about professional registration

13:15 – 13:30 Feedback and notice of future meetings

13:30 – 16:00 Tours of the new Forensic Teaching Facility (Crime Scene House) and The Institute of Innovation and Sustainable Engineering

16:00 End and departure

Key discussion points from each agenda item:

09:30 Arrival and coffee and registration

The event went very well, a big thank you to Steve Taylor and Crispin Owen for helping to organise the event.

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Introduction (including intended outcomes) - Amrat Khorana, HEaTED East Midlands Regional Network Coordinator

Amrat introduced the event and thanked everyone for attending, considering the dates are not always convenient for everyone to attend. Amrat introduced the agenda and did a brief overview of what the attendees can expect from the day, followed by a few outcomes of the event. Amrat also mentioned that he provided some Easter treats for everyone (doughnuts). He then introduced the first speaker, James Nobes, HEaTED Membership and Networks Manager.

10:15 – 10:45 HEaTED Update - James Nobes, HEaTED Membership and Networks Manager All the latest Regional and National updates from HEaTED, including how HEaTED connects with Professional Registration

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

James reminded staff that to receive communication from HEaTED they must register to be a member via the website www.heated.ac.uk. Members are sent newsletters approximately every 5 weeks.

Overview

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

What is HEaTED

HEaTED Membership is free to staff once their Institution has signed up. HEaTED have 75+ different Institutions and over 3,250 from these institutions have registered. Over 600 individuals have participated in training events. This equates to 250 training days.

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. The new Course Directory will be available next month as it is currently being printed. If there are courses you are interested in but are not in the directory, please let HEaTED know and they will source a facilitator. There is also the option of technicians running expert workshops and raising income for their Institutions.

Arm 2 – Regional Networks. There are a number of HEaTED Regional Groups throughout the UK. These groups allow members the opportunity to share, ask questions and network. Meetings are held around the UK and are free to attend. There are 3 North East network meetings per year. The next North East event will be the annual joint regional event with Yorkshire regional group to be held at the National Science Learning Centre at York on 24 June 2015, the theme for this event will be 'Mindfulness'. Details will be published soon on www.heated.ac.uk.

Supporting Professional Registration

James recapped on the discussion of the previous meeting.

Anyone wishing to apply for professional registration must join the relevant licensing body then decide on the level e.g. Registered Science Technician (RSciTech), Registered Scientist (RSci), Eng Tech, ICT Tech, I Eng, C Eng.

There is only one form in the common application process. If there are sufficient numbers, assessors may come to your work place to help support individuals with the application process.

Why Registration is good for you and why should you get involved

- 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

The role of HEaTED in Professional Registration

- Think of HEaTED as a vehicle
- All courses are linked with the competencies
- Regional Network events and contribution to on-line groups and community
- Sign-posting routes for registration

Evidence suggests that 21% using HEaTED as evidence and 26% requesting more information. HEaTED supports technicians on their journey to professional registration through Licensed Bodies.

Who to register with?

There is a range of Awarding Bodies and you choose the one specific to your requirement. There is more information available on the Science & Engineering Council's website. There is no Arts Professional Registration yet but they are lobbying for an equivalent registration.

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, a new resource exclusively for HEaTED members has been developed.

The CATTS resource has been designed to change the way 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 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 for sale at £250 for HEaTED member institutions and £450 for non-member. The payment is per Institution and NOT per individual. There will be a HEaTED [Online Community Group](#) to support this resource where members can share their experiences.

What do HEaTED need from you?

- Register through HEaTED and/or update your profile
- Keep coming to events and encourage your colleagues to join
- Complete the on-line survey
- Post in the Regional On-line groups
- Help spread the word in your Institution
- Run your own courses through HEaTED
- Tell us what training you need

Tweet



10:45 – 11:15 Peter Beaman, Senior

Social Psychology Technician Loughborough University – In follow up to the “raising the profile” workshop at De Montfort, Peter offers feedback on an experiment he conducted at Loughborough

This was a very interesting talk from Peter, who shared the results of a recent student survey focusing on how technicians and their roles are perceived.

- What do different groups (academic and student) think technicians do?
- Who is Peter Beaman?
- 88 social psychology students undertook the survey
- BPS – range of accredited documentation
- Spoke about the structure of the psychology department at Loughborough University
- Spoke about his role and responsibilities
- BOS – British Online Survey - benefits

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee/tea

11:30 – 12:00 Isobel Hogg, Royal Society of Chemistry – Overview of Professional Registration

Isobel's presentation was excellent and informative. She provided some interesting and relevant information relating to professional registration with RSC. She spoke about the aims of RSC:

- World leading Chemistry community
- Advancing excellence in the chemical sciences

Professional Registration:

- External industry-wide recognition skills and knowledge
- Professionally approved – recognising current level of working/competency

Benefits of Professional Registration:

- Shows you have built upon your academic achievements
- Demonstrates that you have developed transferable skills, both professional and scientific

Isobel discussed the two types of Professional Registration available through RSC and the requirements:

- RSciTech and RSci (Registered Science Technician and Registered Scientist, respectively)
- Must be a member of a professional body (displayed a list of the 9 different professional bodies)
- Must meet the requirements via existing qualifications, work based learning and CPD activities
- You are able to work with a mentor to complete and submit application for Professional Registration (costs £15 to submit application)
- Requirements for RSciTech/RSci – at least one year relevant work experience
- RSciTech is aimed at technical staff whereas RSci is aimed at scientists or higher apprentices
- Application process for both types of registration requires you to complete 5 competencies. These are similar but differ in level of working examples
- An effective method to show you meet the competencies - using STAR technique (situation, task, action, results)

12:00 – 12:15 Martyn Balmont, Technician Assistant School of Pharmacy University of Lincoln – talks about his experience of Professional Registration

Martyn gave an excellent talk about his personal experiences of undertaking Professional Registration (RSci). This provided an introduction to what applicants can expect and what the requirements are, if undertaking registration through IST.

- Martyn only recently achieved Professional Registration
- Martyn currently supports the MPharm programme at the University of Lincoln, as a technician assistant
- Professional Registration through IST requires candidates to have 3 years' experience in a relevant role
- The application has 5 sections and 15 competencies to complete
- CPD is an ongoing process and contributes 15 points per year

12:15 – 12:45 Lunch and networking

12:45 – 13:15 Informal discussions about Professional Registration

The group was asked to continue with informal discussions about Professional Registration. Isobel and Martyn walked around the room to answer any questions. These informal discussions and networking is a vital part of network events, which allows attendees to meet new people and share best practice. With this in mind, the discussions went very well and were useful as a lot of attendees had an interest in Professional Registration.

13.15 – 13:30 Feedback and notice of future meetings

During this segment, attendees were given the opportunity to complete feedback forms and training needs analysis forms. The day was summarised and attendees were informed that the next event will be hosted by the University of Lincoln in September.

13.30 – 16:00 Tours of the new Forensic Teaching Facility (Crime Scene House) and The Institute of Innovation and Sustainable Engineering

The tours of the Forensic Teaching Facility and The Institute of Innovation and Sustainable Engineering were very successful. They showcased the incredible facilities that the University of Derby has to offer. The crime scene house is just fantastic, which has specialised rooms to aid its function and to enhance teaching for Forensic Science students at the University. Meanwhile, The Institute of Innovation and Sustainable Engineering department showcased its very impressive and socially responsible activities for business and teaching.

16:00 End and departure