

May 2017

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ASET

The Work Based and Placement Learning Association

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University of Kent, Canterbury Campus

Planning for the **24th ASET Annual Conference at the University of Kent**, is well underway with the early programme available below. Kent is the UK's European University, with campuses in Athens, Brussels, Paris, and Rome, as well as three in the UK. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 300 acres of parkland that is the **Canterbury Campus**. Surrounded by fields and woods, the campus is only 25 minutes' walk from Canterbury city centre - a **UNESCO World Heritage site**.

Bookings are open, so if you are planning to join us for what is sure to be another memorable event don't forget to reserve your place.

[BOOK YOUR PLACE ONLINE TODAY](#)

Debbie Siva-Jothy

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ASET and the QAA

*Sarah Flynn, ASET Chair, Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching),
University of Hertfordshire*

Earlier this month ASET were once again the invited guests at the Annual Conference of the Quality Assurance Agency, hosted at the East Midlands Conference Centre. This was the 20th Annual Conference for the QAA, and the focus this year was on Building on World Class Quality – thinking about international notions of quality, and quality across the borders both in terms of countries and less-traditional partners for Higher Education. Always an opportunity to learn, there were keynotes from colleagues from

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the USA, the Knowledge and Human Development Authority in Dubai, the British Council and Ofsted.

Probably of most interest to colleagues in the ASET community were the conversations about the importance of the student voice in assuring quality, the expansion of provision by private providers and the introduction and rapid escalation of degree apprenticeships.

QAA continue their commitment to the embedding of student partnership and engagement into all quality evaluation processes, and there was much interest in what this could look like as the sector creates a new regulator and funding council, the Office for Students, brought into being by the Higher Education and Research Act (2017). The OfS will hold the “statutory responsibility for quality and standards” and will be assessing the quality of teaching in universities, in an exercise currently branded as the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). However, the OfS will be able to designate an independent body to carry out these duties, and many would argue that the QAA are best placed to fulfil this role. The OfS will also have the authority to approve new providers, through managing a Register of Higher Education Providers, and the awarding of university title / degree awarding powers, so this was also discussed in the context of the expansion of private provision.

We watch and wait, the OfS will come into being in 2018, and decisions about their designated independent body will follow. This is important because of the crucial role of the QAA’s UK Quality Code for Higher Education, to many of the established quality assurance and enhancement processes that our members have established for the governance of placement.

The final hot topic of the conference was the introduction and rapid escalation of degree apprenticeships; particularly thinking about the assurance of provision, providers and standards. The Department for Education’s recently published Apprenticeship Accountability Statement requires bodies from across the sector to work together to assure the quality of apprenticeships; for example, Ofsted will inspect the quality of apprenticeship training provision from level 2 to level 5. HEFCE will regulate the quality of degree apprenticeships (level 6 and 7). They will work with Ofsted to reach a judgement for apprenticeship providers at level 4 and/or 5 where the apprenticeship standard contains a prescribed HE qualification (such as a foundation degree). As HEFCE transitions to the OfS, and their designated independent body, matters will obviously be reviewed. This clearly presents the sector with some challenges, some new and less familiar quality assurance partners.

Members will be pleased to know that ASET have committed to working with the Quality Assurance Agency on their guidance to subscribers on degree apprenticeships and we look forward to representing your interests there over the next year.

Sarah

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2017 ASET Conference

I am delighted to confirm the first contributors to this year's conference:

Dr Sonal Minocha, *Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Engagement, Bournemouth University*

Stephen Isherwood, *Chief Executive, AGR*

Duncan Piper, *Managing Director, Blue Chip Leaders*

University of Kent, Canterbury Campus

5th – 7th September

Preparing Students for the Global Workplace



As the UK's European University, the University of Kent, will be a fitting environment for our global theme. Details of our full conference programme will be published on our [website](#), where you can also

[BOOK ONLINE](#)

As you know, our conferences are renowned for being participatory and providing delegates with many opportunities to find out about new initiatives, projects and good practice, and this year will be no exception. Conference 2017 will consider our role in **Preparing Students for the Global Workplace**, acknowledging that placements can play a key role in supporting students to work in multinational and multicultural organisations both within the UK and across the world. Conference will include roundtable discussion sessions on the conference theme, and updates from ASET on the policy landscape as we move to a UK outside the EU.

Conference will focus on:

- What will global workplaces look like in 2020?
- How can we provide global exposure to UK based students?
- What does “employability” look like in different countries and cultures?
- What are the challenges of running global work experience programmes?
- What does work based and placement learning look like in different countries?

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We look forward to welcoming you in September.

Programme

Day 1 - Tuesday 5 September

- 08:00 - 09:00 Breakfast (Monday night delegates only)
- 10:00 - 11:00 Registration and refreshments
- 11:00 - 11:15 ASET Welcome
- 11:15 - 11:30 Opening Address: **Professor April McMahon**, *Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Education, University of Kent*
- 11:30 - 12:15 Keynote: **Dr Sonal Minocha**, *Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Engagement, Bournemouth University*
- 12:15 - 12:30 ASET AGM
- 12:30 - 13:30 Parallel Session 1 – Regional Hub Meetings
- 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 - 15:00 Plenary: **David Palmer**, *Research Manager, Trendence UK*
- 15:00 - 15:45 ASET Bursary Projects
 - Research Bursary Project Presentation
 - Summer Project Bursary
- 15:45 - 16:00 Refreshment break
- 16:00 - 17:00 Parallel Session 2
- 18:45 Drinks Reception
- 19:30 Gala Dinner

Day 2 – Wednesday 6 September

- 08:00 - 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 - 9:15 Registration for day delegates
- 09:15 - 10:15 Parallel Session 3
- 10:15 - 11:15 Parallel Session 4
- 11:15 - 11:45 Refreshment break
- 11:45 - 12:15 Keynote: TBC
- 12:15 - 13:15 Discussion Sessions
- 13:15 - 14:15 Lunch
- 14:15 - 15:15 Panel Session chaired by **Stephen Isherwood**, *Chief Executive, AGR*
- 15:15 - 16:00 Afternoon Tea with RMP
- 16:00 - ASET Practice & Research Network Meeting/ Free time
- 18:30 Drinks Reception
- 19:30 BBQ

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Day 3 – Thursday 7 September

- 08:00 - 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 - 09:30 Day registration / Time available for checking out and baggage store
- 09:30 - 10:30 Parallel Session 5
- 10:30 - 11:00 Refreshment break
- 11:00 - 12:00 Parallel Session 6
- 12:00 - 12:45 Keynote: **Duncan Piper**, *Founder and MD, Blue Chip Leaders*
- 12:45 - 13:00 Conference Wrap-up & Close
- 13:00 Packed Lunch and depart

Please note: The programme and/or individual parallel sessions may be subject to change at short notice

Conference Rates

Full details of this year's conference pricing is and set out below. We are pleased to offer reduced rates for conference presenters, and to main other rates once again.

RESIDENTIAL

Residential rates are inclusive of 3-day access, two nights' accommodation, meals and refreshments

- Presenter Rate **£550** new lower rate
- ASET member institutions **£620**
- Non-member institutions **£775***

* Non-member residential rate includes 6 months ASET membership for your institution

NON-RESIDENTIAL

Non-residential rates are inclusive of lunch and morning/afternoon refreshments only, and do not include *evening meals* which, when booked separately are charged at: *Tuesday 5th £40/Wednesday 6th £25*

- Presenter Rate **£450** new lower rate
- ASET member institutions **£500**
- Non-member institutions **£625**

DAY RATES

Day rates include lunch and morning/afternoon refreshments. Day rates do not include evening meals.

- Tuesday 5th September **£250**
- Wednesday 6th September **£250**
- Thursday 7th September **£175**

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ADDITIONAL NIGHT

Additional night bookings for the night before conference can only be taken with initial booking, please check travel arrangements in advance of booking.

Pre-conference Bed & Breakfast: Monday 4th September £50 (evening meal not included)

If you have any queries about the process of the AGM or are considering standing for the Executive Committee and you would like to discuss this before you nominate, then please contact **Sarah Flynn**, ASET Chair, s.j.flynn@herts.ac.uk, **James Corbin**, ASET Vice Chair, j.i.h.corbin-2@kent.ac.uk or **Rebecca Evans**, ASET Treasurer, r.j.evans@leeds.ac.uk

2017 Call for Papers

The deadline for submissions has been extended to May 30th.

It's a busy time of year for all, but don't miss this year's [Call for Papers](#) and **new online submission process**:

Submitting an abstract - **NEW FOR 2017**

To submit an abstract for this year's conference, **you must use the conference submission form** which is available to download, together with the terms and conditions, from <http://www.asetonline.org/events/annual-conference/>

Submit to ASET (aset@asetonline.org) by **Tuesday 30th May 2017**

Contributions welcome

Contributions are invited under **any** placement or employability related topic, though in order to provide a framework for the conference, **submissions around the main conference theme will be prioritised. Presenter discount is available for full conference bookings.** You may submit a synopsis for a contribution under any of the following categories:



Workshops

Workshop sessions will be approximately 45 minutes long and should be designed to be participatory in nature - the presentation element of the workshop should be no longer than 20 minutes, allowing for discussion and activities to follow.

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Research papers

Sessions for research papers will be approximately 45 minutes long and any presentation element of the session should be no longer than 30 minutes to allow for colleagues to ask questions and discuss the research presented.



Posters

Posters are welcome for display in the exhibition circulation area, and for discussion during the poster breakout sessions adjacent to conference refreshment breaks.

NEW for 2017 : Delegates will be voting to award a prize for the best poster.

AGM Notification

A message to all our members from ASET Chair **Sarah Flynn** ...

With our conference rapidly approaching it has become the time of year when we share with you our official notification of the **ASET Annual General Meeting** which is to be held as part of the conference on **Tuesday 5th September 2017** at 12:15, at the University of Kent. If you represent a member institution, the AGM is your opportunity to hear about the work of ASET during the year, receive the formal report on the accounts and to engage with the process of electing the Executive Committee, and we would encourage you to attend.

Have your say - Call for motions /agenda items

Members may request either, and must be present at the AGM to speak to their item or to submit in writing ahead of time. If you would like to table a motion or an agenda item, please do so in writing (electronic format) by email to aset@asetonline.org with the phrase: **AGM 2017 Motion, Agenda Item**, in the subject line of the email, and these must be received by **Friday 28th July, 5pm**.

Get Involved with the ASET Executive Committee – Open call for nominations

The Executive Committee is a team of volunteers who work to govern, guide and carry out the goals of the organisation acting both as Directors and **Trustees**, as ASET is a charity. We have a small number of vacancies for colleagues to join the team, these are not defined roles but rather open to the skills, experience and talents that enthusiastic individuals would like to bring to the Committee.

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- Individuals may self-nominate remembering that they must belong to a member institution, and their nomination must be seconded by someone from a different member institution. Individuals can only second one other person.
- Nominations and confirmations of seconding support must be made in writing (electronic format) by email to aset@asetonline.org with the phrase: **AGM 2017 Nomination** in the subject line of the email. The nomination and the seconding support can come in separate emails.
- To stand, please submit a *biography/manifesto of no more than 200 words* with your nomination. These biographies/manifestos will be made available to the members for consideration ahead of the Annual General Meeting where the vote will take place, so please use them to demonstrate your engagement in the work based and placement learning sector and perhaps to illustrate what you hope to bring to ASET.

Nominations close on Friday 16th June, at 5pm

Staff Development Workshops

We have been delighted to welcome so many enthusiastic and appreciative delegates to our Spring Staff Development workshops. As ever there has been a good mix of experienced Placement staff, staff new to Placements and academics with increasing Placement responsibilities, bringing new perspectives to the topics. We are pleased to be able to offer new venues this year, with increased capacity, so if you are thinking about coming along to any of the upcoming sessions, we should still be able to accommodate you. Full details are available on our [website](#) . **NB Prices held for 2017** (£165 ASET members/£195 non-members)

[BOOK ONLINE](#)

Workshop Programme at a glance

Date	Location	W'shop No.	Title
21-Feb	Student Central, London	1	Risk Assessment and Due Diligence
07-Mar	Senate House, London	2	Supporting Students with Disabilities on Placement
16-Mar	ASET Offices, Sheffield	3	An Introduction to Work Placement Management
06-Apr	Senate House, London	4	Innovation in Placement Assessment
25-Apr	University of Sheffield	5	Placements for Graduates, Post Grads and PhD Students
02-May	London - Senate House	6	Developing Overseas Placements
23-May	Leeds Beckett University	7	Freelancers, Entrepreneurs and Enterprise - Placements
13-Jun	London - Senate House	8	Placements with SMEs
20-Jun	Leeds Beckett University	9	Marketing for Placements
27-Jun	Leeds Beckett University	10	Social Mobility and Placements
13-Jul	Leeds Beckett University	11	Exploring Social Media and Placements for the New and Nervous

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Bespoke Workshops

If you would like to talk about ideas for a bespoke workshop to suit a specific requirement at your institution, contact Debbie at the ASET Office aset@asetonline.org.

WACE Conference 2017 – registration deadline approaching

The WACE 20th World Conference will be held in Chiang Mai, June 5-8, 2017. The Organizing Committee have announced the Conference Registration deadline as May 25, 2017, and would like to pass on the following details about the conference location:

'The host city of Chiang Mai, referred to as Thailand's "Rose of the North", is a cultural and natural wonderland with ethnic diversity, a multitude of attractions and welcoming hospitality. There are many things to explore and discover in Chiang Mai from the famous Night Bazaar to the National Museum and Botanic Garden where you can soak up some local culture and breathe in the delicate fragrance of Thai orchids. In the city's centre, the remains of ancient walls embrace over 30 temples. Limber travellers can climb 300 stairs to Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep, an ornate Buddhist temple in the hills. This is a place to relax and recharge your batteries with fabulous food and leisurely wandering.'

You can register using this link www.waceinc.org/worldconf2017/onlinereg.html and find travel information about getting to Chiang Mai www.waceinc.org/worldconf2017/travel.html and about pre and post conference tour information www.waceinc.org/worldconf2017/tours.html

And Finally

Your next ASET members' e-Bulletin will be issued w/c 19th June. Please forward your news/copy to aset@asetonline.org by Friday 16th June.

Debbie Siva-Jothy aset@asetonline.org www.asetonline.org