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ASET

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Happy New Year!

Hope the New Year is off to a good start for you all? 2014 brings plenty of new opportunities for ASET and we look forward to bringing you updates on all our news and events over the coming weeks. I am delighted to confirm our 2014 Conference location and date in this edition (see below) and hope to confirm our workshop schedule next month. The next e-bulletin will be issued w/c 10th February aset@asetonline.org , so do forward your news as soon as you can.

Debbie Siva-Jothy

Interpreting B10 – one institution’s experience

by **Tim Ward**

The new QAA Quality Code chapter B10 seems to have raised as many questions as it has answers, at least within the Work Based and Placement Learning staff within my institution, from a simple;

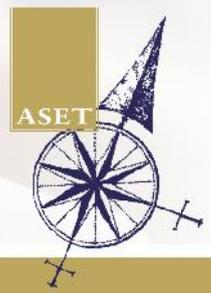
“What is meant by collaborative provision?”

to

“Isn’t that a Governance issue and not part of my remit?”

Having worked with the WBPL staff and on Governance, I have been able to answer these questions (and others), and have developed some key responsibilities for WBPL staff in meeting the indicators, to enable them to deliver “Sound Practice” in their WBPL provision.

When looking at matching our provision, I developed a model that included two key steps that could meet many of the responsibilities of our WBPL staff in meeting the B10 indicators and act as a good base to start to review and develop their provision to match the new Indicators.



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Part A, Part C of the Quality Code and other Chapters of Part B set out how academic standards are established and maintained and how the quality of learning opportunities is assured and enhanced; they apply to all UK Higher Education provision, regardless of where it is delivered or who delivers it.

The Expectations make clear the role of all Higher Education providers in securing high quality learning opportunities for students, regardless of whether, or not, they are the degree-awarding body. All staff that work with others to deliver learning opportunities should read these parts of the Quality Code first.

The delivery of Work Based and Placement Learning will obviously include Collaboration with Business and other outside partners. Therefore there are inherent risks to both academic standards and quality whenever learning opportunities are not directly delivered and supported by the degree-awarding body.

The model will allow you to consider how to mitigate these risks and the formalities which can be conducted to secure arrangements. They do not address the quality of learning opportunities provided through such arrangements. As indicated above, this is covered in the other Chapters of Part B of the Quality Code, and all Higher Education providers are required to meet the Expectations of these Chapters.

The first step in the model is formulated on the review, development and Implementation of a robust Work Based and Placement Learning approval procedure which will meet the requirements of Indicators 3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,13,15,17.

The second is the review, development and implementation of Work Based and Placement Learning Agreement meeting the requirements of indicators 3,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,16,17.

I have not included a detailed process on the steps here but I am more than happy to share the model I developed with you (please contact me at t.ward@Salford.ac.uk). I have included here some questions to facilitate a review of your current provision and assess your needs to work through the model to meet the requirements of B10. Although not all encompassing, the questions may prove to be an excellent starting point for your review of current practice and also be of use when developing your provision.

Questions to ask when reviewing your provision.

1. *What forms of Work Based or Placement Learning do you provide?*

A guide to a possible shared terminology is available in the **ASET Good Practice Guide for Work based and Placement Learning in Higher Education, hard copies are available by contacting ASET**. A shared terminology across your institution could also help to meet



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Indicator 10 (All Higher Education providers maintain records (by type and category) of all arrangements for delivering learning opportunities with others that are subject to a formal agreement).

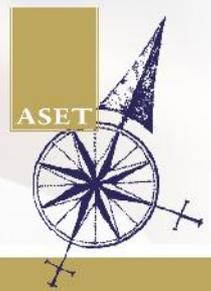
2. *Do you have documentation that clearly defines the aims and learning outcomes for why students are doing Work Based and Placement Learning?*
3. *Do you have clearly defined assessment criteria?*
4. *Do you have clear processes, procedures and documentation that provide clear information to WBPL students particularly with respect to their responsibilities pre, during and post WBPL?*
5. *Do you have clear processes, procedures and documentation that provide clear information to WBPL students of the universities responsibilities pre, during and post WBPL?*
6. *Do you have clear processes, procedures and documentation that provide clear information to WBPL students of the WBPL provider's responsibilities pre, during and post WBPL?*
7. *Do you have clear approval criteria and processes for Work Based and Placement Learning?*

I have found these questions to be an effective starting point in the development of "Good Practice" for WBPL provision in my own work at Salford University. If you would like a copy of the more in-depth steps to meeting the indicators please get in touch (t.ward@salford.ac.uk). I am keen to start a discussion and to develop these steps to add to the tool kit and templates ASET are developing as a resource to sit alongside the Good Practice Guide for Work Based and Placement Learning in Higher Education.

Kind Regards and a Happy and productive New Year (if it's still ok to say that)!

Tim Ward

ASET Trustee and Work Experience Consultant, Salford University



2014 ASET Annual Conference

The 2014 ASET Annual Conference will be held at:

Northumbria University 2nd – 4th September 2014

SAVE THE DATE!!



University of Northumbria, Business School

More details to follow shortly.

ASET Bursaries 2014 – FINAL REMINDER

2014 ASET Research Bursary

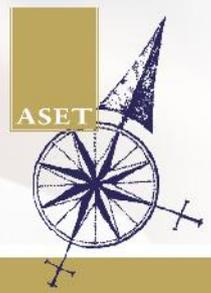
The closing date for the 2014 ASET Research Bursary is fast approaching. The Bursary is worth £500 to the hosting institution to cover expenses including attendance at the 2014 ASET Annual Conference, and **£2000*** to the student appointed for a research project typically over 8 weeks.

*This element of the bursary has been increased to ensure compliance with new National Minimum wage

2014 ASET Exploration & Enhancement Student Bursary

Our new bursary for 2014, the **ASET Exploration & Enhancement Student Bursary**, invites proposals from colleagues to fund an undergraduate or recent graduate to carry out a **small project investigating** an aspect of your **institutional practice** related to placement or work-based learning. ASET is providing this bursary for two reasons; to provide a **funded student placement opportunity**, and to facilitate the **sharing of innovative practice** in placement and work-based learning.

- Which aspect of your work would you like to know more about?
- What information would help you develop what you offer?



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- What could you do that would be of benefit to students?

Whatever your role in placement, work-based learning or employability development, if there's an aspect you'd like to find out more about, ASET might be able to help.

As for the ASET Research bursary, this Bursary is worth £500 to the hosting institution to cover expenses including attendance at the 2014 ASET Annual Conference, and **£2000** to the student appointed for a research project typically over 8 weeks.

The **closing date** for applications to both bursaries is **31st January 2014**.

Third Sector Internships Scotland (TSIS)



TSIS offers students from Scottish universities the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to charities, social enterprises and voluntary organisations through completing paid, supported internships.

Now in their fourth year, TSIS have captured the experience and learning from the programme and how this can be taken forward by universities and the third sector to further support and enhance student employability. Their latest report 'TSIS Data Overview 2010-13' analyses the impact of paid internships and value added and provides a data update, to supplement and refresh the material contained in their midpoint report (TSIS 2012). The report is available for download on the [TSIS website](#) or for a hard copy please contact Fiona Boyle on fboyle@qmu.ac.uk

PGCert in WBL Facilitation

Please see details for the Postgraduate Certificate in Work Based Learning Facilitation (WBIS) available through the University of Chester.

<http://www.chester.ac.uk/postgraduate/work-based-learning-facilitation%20%20>

This Postgraduate Certificate is an approved pathway of the Work Based and Integrative Studies Programme, and is aimed at those who teach in Higher Education on negotiated Work Based Learning programmes, or are developing a skills base towards such a facilitative role. It is also aimed at those about to assume the role of Associate Tutor with the University on the WBIS programme.



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KEY FEATURES

- Three days of workshop delivery
- Specific online resources for each module
- Negotiable assessment and detailed formative assessment feedback on draft assignments
- Successful participants can register as Fellows of the Higher Education Academy

THE POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE CONSISTS OF THREE 20 CREDIT MASTERS LEVEL (NQF LEVEL 7) MODULES

To see if this programme would be useful and relevant to your role, and to help you judge if you might have the necessary elements in your practice, please read the information about

modules <http://www.chester.ac.uk/postgraduate/work-based-learning-facilitation%20%20>

then get in touch for a more detailed discussion. Contact the programme leader, Denise Meakin: d.meakin@chester.ac.uk or Lizzy Williams: lizzy.williams@chester.ac.uk

Job Opportunity – NCUB

Please see below details of a Job Opportunity with the National Centre for Universities and Business that may be of interest:

Research Assistant

The National Centre for Universities and Business (NCUB) develops, promotes and supports world-class collaboration between universities and business across the UK. Our aim is to find practical ways of harnessing the talent being developed in our universities, and the UK's strength in ground breaking research and development, for the benefit of the nation's economy.

Applications are invited for the post of Research Assistant to work on a new research project at NCUB entitled: Undergraduate placements in computer science – uncovering the offer and learning best practice.

The successful candidate will be responsible for preparing the research plan, gathering evidence and carrying out analysis under the direction of the Project Manager in order to deliver this project over a 6 month period. You will be able to work flexibly and independently and bring excellent data collection, analysis, and presentation skills to the role.



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The closing date for all applications is **20th Jan 2014** and interviews will be held on **28th Jan 2014**.

For further details please visit the NCUB site

<http://www.ncub.co.uk/jobs/research-assistant.html>

And don't forget.... If you would like to see your news here next month – get in touch via the ASET Office aset@asetonline.org