

ASET e-Bulletin

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ASET

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November 2015

A very full year of ASET Staff Development Workshops will shortly come to a close with the final session 'Engaging with SMEs for Placement Opportunities' on December 17th. The 2016 programme will be available next month, so keep an eye out on the ASET website, and in the meantime – have you booked your place?

This month we have thoughts from ASET Chair, Sarah Flynn, on the new Green Paper released earlier this month, *Fulfilling our Potential: Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice*, with a pointer to the key features, and an invitation to add your voice to the ASET representation. Please do take the time to let us know what you think.

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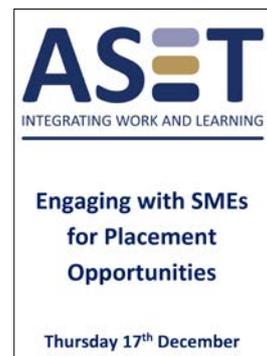
New Green Paper for HE signals changes are ahead

by Sarah Flynn, ASET Chair

Principal Lecturer Learning and Teaching, University of Hertfordshire

For those of you close to the policy landscape, you'll have already spent some time digesting the near 40,000 word Green Paper, *Fulfilling our Potential: Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice*, released at the beginning of the month and accessible in full [here](#). It is broad on principle, short of detail – with the notable exception of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), which has been under discussion now for a while – but more on that in a moment.

What are the key features besides the TEF? We'll have a new Office for Students that will emerge from HEFCE and OFFA but with a remit for access, teaching, quality, data and regulation – this makes the positions of the HEA, the QAA and the HESA rather unclear and still to be confirmed. The ability to set the tuition fee cap passes to the Secretary of State, and powers to enter and inspect institutions in the interests of the taxpayers is proposed for BIS



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or their nominee. The establishment of new, and dissolution of existing, institutions will be made quicker and easier leading to more flux in the market.

And what of the TEF? Well, it is complex, and we would recommend David Kernohan's excellent analysis at [WonkHE](#) for the full picture. The first iteration of the TEF, assessed on 2016 and allowing fee increases in 2017, will be based purely on a simple quality metric as to whether they have passed the most recent QAA review. On this basis, 96% of universities would be eligible to charge fees increased on the rate of inflation. But what is of interest to those of us in the employability world is that the proposal to include DLHE data looks like being included in phase 2, from 2017, including matching it with data gathered through HM Revenue and Customs. If the recommendations of the Green Paper are to be implemented it means a heavy programme of legislature following the consultation period which is open until January 15th 2016. ASET will of course be making representation of behalf of our members, and if you want to let us know your thoughts then please do get in touch before the Christmas break.

ASET Executive Committee update

Interest in getting involved with ASET continues to grow, and this month the Trustees are pleased to welcome another new Co-Opt to the ASET Executive Committee, Michael Davies, *Lecturer and Work Placement Tutor, University of Wales, Trinity St David*. Michael has extensive commercial experience prior to entering academia, and has also been a University Governor and will no doubt bring his expertise to bear in the key area of governance, as we continue to grow the organisation. He will be joining the Trustees at Executive Committee meetings from December of this year, with a view to standing for election to the board at the AGM in September 2016.

If you would like to get involved, why not think about joining a Working Group?

<http://www.asetonline.org/aset/aset-working-groups/>

ASET Staff Development Programme

The last ASET Workshop for 2015 is still open for bookings, although places are now limited. If you would like to attend, you can [complete a booking form here](#) and email to the ASET office:

Engaging with SMEs for Placement Opportunities

Thursday 17th December (10am-4pm) Senate House, London

£155 ASET members/£180 non members

Engaging with SMEs can be an effective way of generating new and more varied placement opportunities for students. However, considering that many SMEs do not have formal summer or year-long internship/placement recruitment processes, or may not have considered taking on a student/graduate before, there can be barriers that make engagement difficult.

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This training workshop aims to show:

- the sources and means by which to locate suitable SMEs
- the methods for engaging with SMEs (marketing the benefits of taking on students/graduates)
- the service level agreements or contracts to have in place
- how to make life easier for SMEs: things to do before, during and after the internships

Please note the last day for booking on this workshop is Tuesday 8th December

Please note places are limited at all workshops and bookings are taken on a strictly first come first served basis.

ASET Student Competition 2015

The closing date for this year's student competition is **Friday 8th January 2016**. There are two entry categories this year, and a £500 prize is available for each category, so please do encourage your students to enter. You can download the [competition flyer](#) here, or from the [ASET website](#) and forward to all your returning placement students – they could **Win £500**



2015 ASET Student Competition

This year the ever popular ASET Student Competition has two categories for entry:

- Work experience gained in the UK or Ireland
- Work experience gained overseas

And a £500 prize will be awarded to the winning entry in each category.

And Finally.....

If you would like to see your news here next month – get in touch, space is free of charge to ASET Members. Copy deadline Friday 11th December.