

ASET e-Bulletin

In this issue.....

Page

1. **2021 ASET Conference highlights**
5. **ASET Good Practice Guide Health, Safety and Welfare - New Edition 2021**
6. **WIN £400**
7. **Professional Development Events – AW'21**
8. **CPD Corner**
9. **ASET Resources**

ASET

The Work Based and Placement Learning Association

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October 2021



We've had a short break here at ASET HQ after a busy summer in the lead up to #ASET21, but the new term and our new programme of events are now well underway (see below for full details).

In case you were unable to join us for conference, there are a few highlights below, and keep a note to look out for Proceedings due for publication later this month.

Debbie Siva-Jothy

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2021 ASET Conference highlights

Our second online annual event attracted members from all corners of the UK, Ireland and beyond. With almost 200 attendees, #ASET21 was one of our largest events to date, and judging from the feedback, timely, beneficial, and maybe even a little like a real live event.....



PANEL: New Skills for a New World

Our opening panel of experts from diverse backgrounds and roles with experience of Work- Related Learning, came together to

ASET e-Bulletin

consider their responses to and thoughts around a range of questions under the following topic headers:

- The Impact of Covid**
- The University Sector**
- Working with employers**
- Working Globally**

You said:
"Fantastic to have such an international panel, a great way to capitalise on a virtual conference"

PARALLEL SESSIONS

This year presenters were invited to submit abstracts under one of three headers: Practitioner Solutions to Student Engagement during the Pandemic, Digital Innovation or as a Research Showcase. The first two categories formed a series of seven Parallel Session streams across the two days with delegates self-selecting sessions thereby curating their own conference experience.

"[so good] to hear what others are doing, lots of things to implement"

"all sessions were of a very high quality"

ASET BURSARY

Now in their 10th year, a total of [eighteen ASET Bursary projects](#) have been funded through the ASET Bursary scheme. This year's Summer Project Bursary winner, Anne Lloyd (née McCabe), Work-Based Learning Advisor, Professional Liaison Unit, School of Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering, City, University of London submitted her application to consider:

"This is such a valuable part of conference as it is what we all thrive on, seeing students go above and beyond"

"Such an inspirational speaker"

Has COVID-19 changed Work based Learning forever?

The project was undertaken by Sophie Gueli, BSc Computer Science at City, University of London, and for many her presentation was one of the highlights of conference. Well done Sophie!



KEYNOTES

Bringing inspirational, relevant and thought-provoking speakers to conference is one of the key aims of the ASET Trustees, and delegates told us that this year's speakers brought *"a good balance between high level and operational issues"*



How do we use data in our HE Providers to evaluate practice?

Professor Helen Higson OBE

Inspiring students with the first steps in their

careers in a post-pandemic world, Lizzie Brock and Nisha Batish, RMP

Five Subtle Principles of Building Resilience and Wise Wellbeing

Ross McWilliam, www.mindsetpro.co.uk



ASET e-Bulletin

NETWORKING

Something we've all missed in the last eighteen months is the opportunity to have those all-important chats with colleagues and others in the ASET Community. The popularity of our online Regional Hubs has shown us just how much you've valued the support of your ASET colleagues. At conference we wanted to give delegates a less structured space to meet and to interact in a more relaxed way, and they told us this session was a real highlight.

"The networking opportunity was one of the many highlights of this conference and offered valuable insight and conversations"

"This was a fantastic opportunity to hear from the ASET Community, make new connections and reconnect with existing connections, which is priceless"

RESEARCH SHOWCASE

Opportunities to share Research have been few and far between in the last year, and the ASET Research Working Group have been determined to create space to showcase WBPL at conference, and to build on the success of their spring Practice and Research Network (PRN) meeting. Following the same **3 slides in 5 minutes** format, presenters took us on fast paced trip through their work, and prompted a whole host of questions, and no doubt generating ideas for further research projects.

"I loved how quick fire this was, it really kept it fresh and exciting"

"Great showcase too short"

PD TASTERS

Professional Development Taster sessions have been a feature of ASET conferences for many years. They are an easily accessible opportunity to explore topics relevant to your daily practice and designed and delivered by ASET Trustees. This year's topics were well received by all:

Wellbeing at Work

- Risk based Approach to Placements**
- Developing Projects with Employers**
- Getting Started with Research**

For many, these sessions were a timely reminder of the need and value of making time to focus on your own learning and development, which can so often slide when there are constant pulls on your time. The ASET Staff Development events programme offers a range of sessions this term to meet the needs of new and experienced staff – you can check it out [here](#)

"The employer session was ..really useful and delivered in a way to get you thinking. The use of padlet and mentimeter was a great way of getting feedback from the audience"

"Both were really interesting - we have a really good H & S process in place already - but interesting to go through the case study"

"New connections from the employer projects session, who I will engage with to discuss this issue further"

"Loved the Wellbeing session it really felt topical and the tone was perfect"

ASET e-Bulletin

And after a packed couple of days, conference drew to a close with a conference review from the ASET Trustees highlighting their key takeaway from conference to embed in their practice in the year ahead and a prompt to remember the importance of building resilience and maintaining your own wellbeing from guest speaker Ross McWilliam. ASET Treasurer, Vianna Renaud bid farewell to all with a reminder that ASET is here to support you through the uncertainties of the year ahead, and to take strength and support from the wider ASET Community. And so 'til next year when we hope we will see you all in person at the 2022 ASET Conference at Keele University.

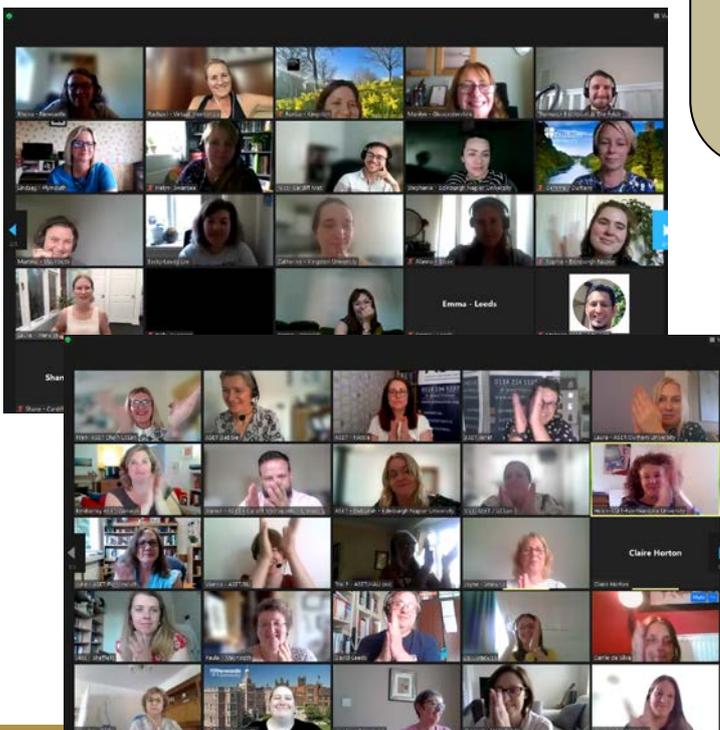
*"I have so many notes written down that includes points I will action, for example around student engagement, event reminders, process reviews and enhancements, competitions, Pagoda scholarship, scaling up projects, marketing and branding, practising what we preach (by suggesting employing our Graduates), ways of incentivising students and employers, inclusion-based projects and **the importance of networking with this fabulous community**"*

"This was a fantastic opportunity to hear from the ASET Community, make new connections and reconnect with existing connections, which is priceless"

"Excellent value and such a useful resource"

"My key takeaways were different ways we can promote opportunities to students, the importance of placements and making sure risks are continually identified and considered and the importance of supporting students sufficiently"

"I missed seeing everyone in person - but for an online conference it was pretty faultless"



ASET e-Bulletin

ASET Good Practice Guide for Managing the Health Safety and Welfare for Student Placements – New Edition 2021

If you joined us at #ASET21, the 2021 ASET Conference you will already be aware of the new ASET Good Practice Guide for H&S:

ASET Good Practice Guide for Managing the Health Safety and Welfare for Student Placements.

This revised and updated edition is the result of regular review of policy, a response to members' queries, and consideration of case studies.

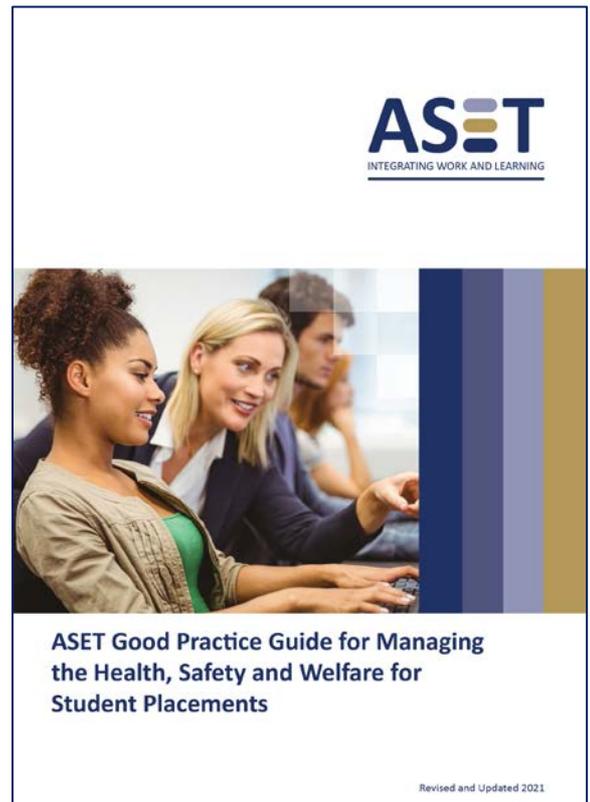
The new Guide continues to offer practical implementation support and in addition offers mapping of the USHA publication *Guidance on Health and Safety of Placements for Higher Education Students* (2018) to ASET guidance. Further key changes to note, are an enhanced stress on welfare, and on lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new Guide is available to download from the ASET website alongside all our Good Practice Guides.

[ASET Good Practice Guide for Managing the Health, Safety and Welfare for Student Placements \(2021\)](#)

Other Good Practice Guides

[ASET Good Practice Guide for Work based and Placement Learning in Higher Education](#) and [TOOLKIT](#)
[ASET Good Practice Guide for Supporting Students with Disabilities on Placement](#) and [TOOLKIT](#)
[ASET Good Practice Guide to Successful Work Based Learning for Apprenticeships in Higher Education](#)



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WIN £400

(plus two HC awards @£100 each)

Student Competition 2021

*Calling all students who have recently completed work experience – **in person or virtually***



These continue to be testing times for all, not least for your students who have been undertaking a Placement/Internship/ Work experience during the last academic year.

With this in mind we are again adapting our competition to enable as many students as possible to qualify for a chance to win. So, whether their Placement/Internship/Work experience was undertaken in the UK or overseas, remotely or in person, you can encourage them to tell us about their experiences. What they learnt about themselves, their strengths, and how they managed to adapt to change? What have they learnt about working with colleagues, perhaps face to face, and then remotely? Have their experiences shaped their plans for the future? **We are particularly interested to hear about how they adapted to their online working vs studying environment.**

The winning entry will receive a prize of **£400**, and there will also be two **Highly Commended** awards of **£100** each.

We are looking for short accounts (up to 900 words) which inform others about the value of work experience, clearly express the value of the learning, and do so in a lively and enthusiastic manner. This is an ideal opportunity for reflection, and good news to share with all your returning students. **The competition is open now and the deadline for entries is 12 noon Friday 26th November 2021.** Please forward the [2021 ASET Student Competition flyer](#) and [entry form](#) to all.

The ASET Student Competition is an ASET Membership benefit and open only to students at [current ASET Member institutions](#).

ASET e-Bulletin

Online Professional Development Events – [Autumn programme](#)

Our Autumn Staff Development Events programme is underway. We have a mix of core and **NEW** professional development events, essential to building the skills and knowledge of your team. Whether you are new or experienced, there is something for everyone.

All events are **online** and prices for both **Workshops** (£125 ASET members' rate) and **ASET Insights** (£50 ASET members' rate) have been held.

[BOOK ONLINE](#)

Workshops

The programme will run through to December and includes two **NEW** sessions; **SMEs, TSOs and other Alternative Provider Placements**, and **Games! The fun way to upskill and engage students**. Workshops run from 9.30 – 1.30, with plenty of breaks. **Find out more about each of our Workshops from Learning and Development Advisor, Nicola, through the links in each title below:**

£125 ASET Members (£275 ASET non-members)

W'shop No.	W'shop Ref.	Date	Day	Time	Title
1	IWPM	23/09/2021	Thurs	09:30-13:30	Introduction to Work Placement Management
2	HSWP	13/10/2021	Wed	09:30-13:30	Managing Health, Safety and Welfare for Student Placements
3	VP	27/10/2021	Wed	09:30-13:30	Virtual Placements
4	PP	10/11/2021	Wed	09:30-13:30	Promoting Placements
5	EDIP	16/11/2021	Tues	09:30-13:30	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for Placements NEW
6	STAPP	25/11/2021	Thurs	09:30-13:30	SMEs, TSOs and other Alternative Provider Placements NEW
7	Games!	08/12/2021	Wed	09:30-13:30	Games! The fun way to upskill and engage students NEW

Find out more about workshop content on our website [here](#)

ASET Insights

ASET Insights are 90-minute interactive sessions looking at broad, complementary professional development themes. Insights are developed and led by our experienced Trustees, and designed to provide short, impactful updates to your professional toolkit. **ASET Insights** themes are selected to enhance your confidence in practical skills that contribute to work success. You can book your place for these short CPD sessions through our usual online booking system. Find out more about ASET Insight content [here](#)

£50 ASET Members (£100 ASET non-members)

Session	Date	Day	Time	Title
E *	29/09/2021	Wed	10:00-11:30	Bridging the academic/administrative divide
G	07/10/2021	Thurs	10:00-11:30	Inducting new placement staff
H	01/11/2021	Mon	10:00-11:30	Learning Styles and how they impact the workplace
I	13/12/2021	Mon	10:00-11:30	Beyond placements – skills development

ASET e-Bulletin

CPD Corner

Nicola Bullivant-Parrish, Learning and Development Advisor



It's now well and truly Autumn term and the vibes from members attending our staff development events so far are excitement, trepidation, and some more excitement. Being back on campus for at least part of your working week is news worth celebrating. For some amongst you, this will mean commuting to campus for the very first time.

Many ASET members have welcomed new staff to their placements and work-based learning teams over the course of the pandemic and for some this has meant being onboarded remotely and having little face to face interaction with their new colleagues – until now.

Our workshop programme for this term has kicked off with 2 workshops which are the perfect starting point for anyone new to their roles in work based and placement learning – An Introduction to Work Placement Management and Health, Safety and Welfare for Student Placements (formerly Risk Assessment and Due Diligence). With a shared core aim of giving delegates a solid foundation of knowledge from which to build on within their institutional roles, these 2 workshops are packed with #ASETTopTips and examples from our facilitators' experiences.

We've held two Insights so far too – Bridging the Academic/Administrative Divide and Inducting New Placement Staff. These 90-minute sessions pack a mighty punch for your CPD needs. There are more to come this term as well so be sure to check out the full details for Learning Styles (1/11/21) and Beyond Placements – Skills Development (13/12/21).

Continuing the theme of looking forwards, the workshops still to come are phenomenal, with not one but three new topics:

- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for Placements](#)
- Engaging with [SMEs, TSOs and other Alternative Provider Placements](#)
- [Games! The fun way to upskill and engage students](#)

We know that these are important topics to you – we asked you and you've told us so. Thank you for responding to our calls to action. Your input is both valued and welcomed. We believe that our membership offer through the arm of our Staff Development programme is stronger than ever as we bring to you, our members, these events. Make time for your CPD this term and take a look at the details for all of the events coming up between now and Christmas.

Nicola

ASET e-Bulletin

ASET Resources

Don't forget we are here to support you. Make the most of your membership:

Join us on **LinkedIn** – The Placement and Employability Professionals Group 1200 + members and growing daily. Request to join here <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1929302/>



 Follow us **Twitter** @ASETOnline

Use your **ASET Good Practice Guides**

[ASET Good Practice Guide for Work based and Placement Learning in Higher Education](#) and [TOOLKIT ASET Good Practice Guide for Managing the Health, Safety and Welfare for Student Placements \(2021\)](#):
[ASET Good Practice Guide for Supporting Students with Disabilities on Placement](#) and [TOOLKIT ASET Good Practice Guide to Successful Work Based Learning for Apprenticeships in Higher Education](#)

Know about the **ASET Viewpoints**

- 1 - [Paid and Unpaid Placements](#)
- 2 - [The Benefits of Placement](#)
- 3 - [HEA Recognition](#)
- 4 - [Alumni Mentoring](#)
- 5 - [The Consumer Rights Act and the Competition and Markets Authority](#)
- 6 - [Making Effective Placement Visits](#)
- 7 - [Insurance and visas for International Placements](#)
- 8 - [Student Engagement](#)
- 9 - [Student Resilience](#)
- 10 - [Degree Apprenticeships](#)
- 11 - [Troubleshooting for Placements – Everyday Troubleshooting](#)
- 12 - [Troubleshooting for Placements – Crisis Management](#)
- 13 - [The impact of budget cuts and steps to mitigate](#)
- 14 - [Making the most of technology to adapt to changes in work and placement opportunities](#)

And Finally

The next ASET members' e-Bulletin will be issued in November. Please forward your news/copy to aset@asetonline.org by Friday 19th November

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