Evaluating teaching achievement: university partners' meeting

Thursday 25th February 2016

Royal Academy of Engineering, London

Meeting goals

The Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng) recently published a draft template for the evaluation of teaching achievement in university promotion. A group of 12 partner universities from across the world is providing feedback about how well the template might work in practice. A sub-group of these universities are piloting the template within their promotion/appraisal systems.

The meeting aims to bring together representatives from this group of universities to:

- establish an international community of dialogue between individuals and institutions striving to improve the recognition of university teaching;

- discuss experiences and share ideas for reforming university promotion systems, as well as provide specific feedback about the RAEng template;

- pave the way for broader cross-institutional agreement about the recognition of teaching, such that these achievements could be 'portable' and recognised between universities in a similar way to research achievements.

The meeting agenda is provided overleaf. The day will be divided into four sessions. Each will begin with two or three short (five minute) talks from selected participants, to introduce the topic under discussion and highlight some key issues. The main focus of each session will be discussion and feedback from meeting participants.

Participants

The meeting will be attended by around 30 leaders from major universities currently engaged in internal discussions about the potential for reshaping their promotion process. Universities from 11 countries will be represented at the meeting (see pages 3-4 for the provisional participant list). The majority of participants are directly engaged with the RAEng study, either by providing feedback about the template on behalf of their university or by supporting a piloting of the template within their university. They will be joined by a small group of individuals with particular expertise in the evaluation and recognition of university teaching, many of whom acted as external reviewers during the development of the draft template.

Venue and accommodation

The meeting and reception/dinner will both be held at the Royal Academy of Engineering, London. Maps and directions are available at the Academy's website.

Local accommodation includes the Sofitel Hotel (St James), a 5* hotel 5 minutes' walk from the venue and the Strand Palace Hotel, a mid-range hotel 15 minutes' walk from the venue.

Contact information and access/dietary requirements

If you have any dietary requirements or access requirements, please contact Jane Divito (jane.divito@raeng.org.uk) by 18th February 2016.

Contacts details for the event: Jane Divito, Royal Academy of Engineering events team, telephone: +44 (0) 20 7766 0600

Meeting agenda

9:00	Registration and coffee
9:30	**Introduction**: aims of the day, introduction of participants and overview of the Royal Academy of Engineering study [Ruth Graham]
10:00	**The factors driving change**: *why are current systems for evaluating teaching achievement in higher education coming under scrutiny?* Session chair: *Stephen Richardson*. Introducers: *Johan Geertsema (NUS), Jessica Townsend (Olin College of Engineering) and Edward Crawley (Skoltech)* *The session will set a context for the day's discussions, addressing the question: why are we interested in changing how teaching achievement is evaluated in higher education? Introducers will open the session by highlighting what they regard as the major drivers for change to how teaching achievement is evaluated in higher education, before opening the discussion to all meeting participants.*
11:00	Break
11:30	**The RAEng template**: *how well would the template work in practice?* Session chair: *John Perkins*. Introducers: *Martin Vigild (DTU), Roland Tormey (EPFL), and Khairiyah Mohd-Yusof (UTM)* *The session will gather early feedback from participants about the design and applicability of the RAEng template within their institutions. The session will start with descriptions of how three of the partner universities are using/reviewing the template. Participants will then discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the template's approach and its applicability within their universities.*
13:00	Lunch
14:00	**The barriers to change:** *what challenges are universities likely to encounter when reforming their promotion systems with respect to teaching?* Session chair: *Peter Goodhew*. Introducers: *Thomas Olsson (Lund University) and Alan Murray (University of Edinburgh)* *The session will explore the challenges associated with reform to university promotion systems. It will open with talks from two change leaders, describing the challenges faced when reforming the evaluation of teaching achievement within their universities. Participants will discuss likely challenges of adopting the RAEng template (or similar model) within promotion systems at their institutions, and how these could be tackled.*
15:15	**Making teaching achievements 'portable':** *what potential exists for teaching achievements to be recognised between universities and countries?* Session chair: *Stephen Richardson*. Introducers: *Dilly Fung (UCL) and Jan van der Veen (University of Twente)* *The session explores the potential for establishing a common approach to evidencing teaching achievement, shared across institutions and countries, allowing these achievements to be 'portable' in a similar way to research achievements. Participants will discuss the potential for the group of university partners engaged in the RAEng study to play a role in establishing such a global approach.*
16:30	**Closing discussion and next steps** [Ruth Graham]
17:00	Finish (break prior to dinner/reception)
18:30	**Drinks reception and dinner (Royal Academy of Engineering)**

Session chairs

Goodhew, Peter	University of Liverpool, UK	Emeritus Professor
Perkins, John	Department for Business Innovation and Skills, UK Government	Former Chief Scientific Advisor (and Honorary Professor, University of Manchester and Visiting Professor, Imperial College London)
Richardson, Stephen	Imperial College London, UK	Emeritus Professor (and former Associate ProVost, Institutional Affairs)

Meeting participants

Andersson, Pernille	Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark	Educational Consultant, DTU LearningLab
Apers, Peter	University of Twente, Netherlands	Dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science
Crawley, Edward	Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech), Russia	President
Fortin, Clement	Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech), Russia	Dean of Education
Fung, Dilly	University College London (UCL), UK	Director, UCL Centre for Advancing Learning and Teaching (CALT)
Geertsema, Johan	National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore	Director, NUS Centre for Development of Teaching & Learning (CDTL)
Graham, Ruth	R. H. Graham Consulting Ltd, UK	Higher Education Consultant
Germer, Melanie	University of Technology and Engineering, Peru	Provost
Huijberts, Henri	Queen Mary University of London, UK	Director of Taught Programmes & College Lead for International Student Experience
Lee, Julia	Harvard University, US	Executive Director for Education and Research, John A. Paulson School of Engineering & Applied Sciences

Lorentzen, Sofie	Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark	HR partner
Mitchell, John	University College London (UCL), UK	Vice Dean Education, UCL Engineering
Mohd Yusof, Khairiyah	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia	Director, Centre for Engineering Education, Associate Professor
Morgan, Rhys	Royal Academy of Engineering, UK	Director of Engineering and Education
Murray, Alan	University of Edinburgh, UK	University Assistant Principal (Academic Support) & Head of Institute for Bioengineering
Nida, David	Queen Mary University of London, UK	Head of Operations, Science and Engineering HR Team
Olsson, Thomas	Lund University, Sweden	Academic Developer (and co-lead in the establishment of the Pedagogical Academy at Lund University)
Pagnucco, Maurice	University of New South Wales Australia	Deputy Dean Education, Faculty of Engineering
Peggie, Martyn	University of Edinburgh, UK	Deputy Director of HR (Reward and Management Systems)
Peterson, Lena	Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden	Dean of Education
Pralong, William	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland	Head of Quality, Vice-Presidency for Academic Affairs
Sadeghi, Hassan	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland	Head of Faculty Affairs
Shelton, Julia	Queen Mary University of London, UK	Dean for Taught Programme, Faculty of Science and Engineering
Tormey, Roland	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland	Lead, EPFL Teaching Support Centre
Townsend, Jessica	Olin College of Engineering, US	Associate Dean for Curriculum and Academic Programs
van der Veen, Jan	University of Twente, Netherlands	Physics Education and Chair of 3TU Centre for Engineering Education
Vigild, Martin	Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark	Senior Vice President and Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Student Affairs
Wennberg, Bernt	Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden	Professor, Head of Department of Mathematical Sciences