



e-Bulletin : July 2010

THE WORK-BASED ROUTE TO PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

Flexible pathway is welcomed

An evaluation of the MSc Professional Engineering carried out by an independent consultant has found broad satisfaction amongst all the stakeholder groups – employers, employees, universities, professional engineering institutions and the Engineering Council—and a lot of interest in this type of flexible pathway. Employees welcomed the opportunity to follow the MSc programme and work towards achieving CEng without having to leave work. Employers like the MSc's flexibility, its direct link with UK-SPEC and relevance to the individual's work for the company.

Universities find that it fits with strategic aims such as widening participation and employer engagement. IET, IMechE and RAeS, who have been involved from the beginning, report that the pathway fits with their aims of providing flexible routes to professional qualification, and they remain committed to this model.

None of the stakeholder groups made suggestions for major changes. A report including recommendations is available at <http://tinyurl.com/33d4xde>.

Further work to follow up the findings will be done towards the end of the year.



FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS TO BECOMING
A PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED ENGINEER

Work-based Bachelors and Masters degrees in Professional Engineering
leading to Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng)

www.engc.org.uk



New leaflet available

The Engineering Council has published a leaflet about Engineering Gateways flexible pathways, outlining the framework, the benefits to employers and their employees, and the next steps for those interested. The leaflet can be downloaded at <http://www.engc.org.uk/education--skills/engineering-gateways> or hard copies are available from info@engc.org.uk.

Engineering Gateways continues to grow

The Institution of Engineering Designers (IED) is the latest professional engineering institution to sign up and a member of IED has already enrolled on an MSc Professional Engineering at Staffordshire University. This brings the number of participating PEIs to eleven. The increasing involvement of PEIs means that universities can promote their MSc Professional Engineering programmes to those working in a wider range of engineering disciplines.

65 individuals are now enrolled on MSc Professional Engineering programmes and the first graduates are expected in 2011. The list of participating universities and PEIs appears on the right hand side of this page. Additionally, Coventry and Hull Universities will launch programmes during the next academic year and several more are planning for 2011 start dates.

Interest in developing a similar bachelors level pathway is being followed up. This could involve a collaborative venture approach with the FE sector, and is intended to attract individuals aspiring to IEng status.

Programmes available at
Aston University, University of
Hertfordshire, Kingston
University,
Northumbria University,
Staffordshire University

*Professional Engineering
Institutions*
BCS, CIBSE, ICE, IChemE, IED,
IET, IPeM, IMechE, InstMC,
RAeS, SDE

Industry Representatives
COGENT, ECITB,
SEMATA, TUC

This list will be updated as further
organisations become involved

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Participating
Organisations



THE WORK-BASED ROUTE TO PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

Stakeholders' meeting focuses on documentation

Thirty delegates attended the second Stakeholders' Group meeting in May. They heard how IET, IMechE and RAeS deal with documentation submitted by MSc Professional Engineering workbased students.

There is much in common between the three PEIs in terms of aims, objectives and requirements, and the documentation fits with other CEng documentation and within the overall context of professional registration. There was general agreement about the importance of the initial discussion and mapping exercise involving the academic, employer and individual. The PEI's feedback at an early stage about the individual's learning agreement and other supporting documentation has been very important.

A full report of the meeting and presentations are available on the website <http://www.engc.org.uk/engineering-gateways/stakeholders-group.aspx>.

Funding opportunity

If you're a university or college that is interested in developing an Engineering Gateways type of programme and a small amount of funding would help you get started, support is available from the HE STEM project.

A further call for proposals for funding from the HE STEM programme will open in September. Anyone seeking to develop gateways-type provision is encouraged to consider applying for funding under the employer engagement strand. Further details are available at: <http://www.raeng.org.uk/education/hestem/default.htm>.

For an informal discussion about possibilities, please contact Hal Igarashi at the Royal Academy of Engineering hal.igarashi@raeng.org.uk.

Final word from Andrew Ramsay, CEO, Engineering Council

After thirteen years at the Engineering Council, eight of them as CEO, Andrew Ramsay leaves his post at the end of July. Andrew has been involved in the Engineering Gateways work right from the beginning, including the initial bid for funding that enabled 'Engineering Gateways' to get off the ground. Andrew reflects, "even in the depths of this recession, industry is reporting shortages of people with professional engineering skills, and yet we know that there is a large pool of eligible graduates. The Engineering Gateways flexible workbased programme offers the means to bridge this gap for employers and graduates, and I look forward to its growing contribution to our UK economy."

The new CEO of the Engineering Council, Jon Prichard, takes up his post at the beginning of August.

Find out more about Engineering Gateways at <http://www.engc.org.uk/engineering-gateways/>.

Enquiries about getting involved to dseddon@engc.org.uk.

The Engineering Gateways Project is part of a project initially funded under the government's DIUS-funded 'Gateways to the Professions' initiative. It aims to provide a route to professional qualification for working engineers without the full exemplifying qualifications who are unable to commit to full-time study. Employees are able to demonstrate the required competences for professional registration (UK-SPEC) at the same time as meeting the learning objectives for an academic qualification

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