Engineering Professors COUNCIL

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Engineering Professors
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The voice of engineering academics

Engineering Professors Council
Minutes of the meeting of the
Education, Employability and Skills Committee (EES)
held on 21st June 2023 via Zoom

Present via Zoom
Georgina Harris (GH) Chair, Johnny Rich (JR), Mike Sutcliffe (MS), Rinkal Desai (RD), Paul Greening (PG), Clive Neal-Sturgess (CNS), Andrew Spowage (AS), Faith Nightingale (FN) and Manish Malik (MM)

With
Stella Fowler (SF), Wendy Attwell (WA) and Rhian Todd (RT)

Apologies
Kamel Hawwash (KH)

		Action ref
1.	***Apologies for absence***	
	Apologies were received and noted as above.	
2.	***Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2023***	
	The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Previous minutes to have draft watermark removed and reloaded to website as confirmed minutes**. Action: RT**	***2306-01***
3.	***Matters arising not on the agenda***	
	2303-05 SFo to approach Natalie Wint to see if she will take a leadership role in formulating a new toolkit. A meeting took place but RT to contact Natalie again. **Action: RT**	***2306-02***
4.	***Toolkits***	

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	IPO Toolkit JR said he has spoken to IPO and they will come back to him with a proposal of changes. Some branding has changed but it is currently accurate. They will look at expanding it. **Sustainability Toolkit** JR said work has started. The steering group has met and scoped work. Crystal Nwagboso is leading under the direction of Sarah Hitt. Chris Wise is chairing the committee. Work is underway to create resources. **Ethics Toolkit** WA reported on work that has taken place. New content was published in March. There are now 25 case studies, 9 enhancements that are now visible on the Ethics homepage. JR shared his screen to show the committee the content. WA said the toolkit search is still being developed. Ethics explorer is an interactive tool that will be embedded into the toolkit. WA said we hope that other organisations will embed this in their websites. WA said there is now a community of Ethics Ambassadors. This will evolve into a self sustaining community who will keep the toolkit up to date. They are looking at subgroups within this, for example, events. WA said they are still looking for volunteers if anyone on the committee is interested. There is a get involved page with more information. A media release has gone out and they are promoting via social media. MM offers to circulate it via the EERN JISC email. MS asked if there are any statistics available on how many people are using the toolkit and what types of people. JR said it is not simple to retrieve that information but we should decide on a metric we would like to see in terms of traffic – the homepage. JR suggested taking a reading now and see where it is at the next meeting. **Action: WA**	
		2306-03
5.	*Generative AI*	
	JR said there was a lively discussion at Congress regarding Generative AI. Since then the Department of Education has issued a statement and call for evidence on Generative AI in education. JR said the committee should probably formulate a view on this and maybe have an event of some description. JR said the Engineering Council are considering a response and have asked to do this jointly with EPC. JR shared his PowerPoint presentation on the statement and call for evidence. JR ran through 12 questions and said we could try to answer them in this meeting or if it is too big a question, decide how to proceed. Deadline for the response is 23rd August 2023. JR asked if we want to respond? JR said there are three pathways: wides possible (not enough time), committee led or led by a few individuals. PG said as wide as possible would harvest the most popular consensus. MM said there was some good research presented at EERN. JR asked if there was an output from it, MM agreed to reach out. JR to send MM the 12 questions for MM to forward to presenters for their input. **Action: JR**	*2306-04*

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	JR asked SF if it would take long to put a survey up and ask members to respond on this. PG said the idea of a padlet was a good one. SF agreed. JR suggested a padlet for each questions for people to add to, any information received by MM can be added. MM said it could be 2-3 weeks before he gets responses. SF will get the ball rolling and follow up with MM to help with desk research for padlets. MS suggested asking the Engineering Council, SF said they could be invited to contribute to the padlet. JR asked SF to propose this to Catherine. **Action: SF**	*2306-05* *2306-06*
6.	*Horizon Scanning and Scope of Work*	
	Metrics and TEF GH said we will get metrics and TEF responses in the next couple of months – is there anything we should be doing in light of this? It might be good to support people in our understanding of what is happening. GH said how do we as a community respond to OfS. We want to champion open access. GH wants the committee to say what they think is the best approach to help colleagues. JR said we want to facilitate a discussion so suggested capturing what GH said in a blog. We can then invite members to add thoughts and concerns in the discussion. GH suggested putting a document in a shared location so other committee members can contribute. JR asked GH to put together a blog of around 200 words 'OfS Metrics – What's around the corner' which can be added to EPC Online. The committee can then take the lead on commenting. GH said she will circulate the blog to the committee for comment. JR said it should be published first and could be done so anonymously and be titled 'A Dean Writes'. **Action: GH**	*2306-07*
7.	*Any other business*	
	JR said the AGM will take place 5th July and encouraged committee members to attend. JR said the State of Engineering report is due to be published soon.	
8.	*Date of next meeting*	
	19th September 2023.	

Action log

Reference	Agreed Action	By
2306-01	Previous minutes to have draft watermark removed and reloaded to website as confirmed minutes	RT
2306-02	RT to contact Natalie Wint re: previous discussions on ECS.	RT
2306-03	WA to take a reading of traffic to Ethics Toolkit homepage to be compared to a reading prior to the next meeting.	WA
2306-04	JR to send MM the 12 questions (Generative AI statement and call for evidence) for MM to forward to EERN presenters for their input.	JR

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2306-05	SF will get the ball rolling and follow up with MM to help with desk research for padlets (Generative AI statement and call for evidence).	SF
2306-06	SF to contact Catherine at the Engineering Council to ask them to contribute to the padlet on Generative AI.	SF
2303-07	GH to write a 200 word blog titled 'A dean writes'.	GH