



**Engineering Professors Council
Minutes of the meeting of the
Education, Employability and Skills Committee (EES)
held on 6th February 2024 via Zoom**

Present via Zoom

Georgina Harris (GH) Chair, Johnny Rich (JR), Mike Sutcliffe (MS), Rinkal Desai (RD), Paul Greening (PG), Bev Gibbs (BG), Faith Nightingale (FN), Chike Oduoza (CO), Kamel Hawwash (KH) and Clive Neal-Sturgess (CNS)

With

Stella Fowler (SF), Rhian Todd (RT) and Lisa Chilcott (LC)

Apologies

David Brown (DB) and Natalie Wint (NW)

		Action ref
1.	<i>Apologies for absence</i>	
	Noted as above.	
2.	<i>Minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2023</i>	
	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.</p> <p>Previous minutes to have draft watermark removed and reloaded to website as confirmed minutes. Action: RT</p>	2402-01
3.	<i>Matters arising not on the agenda</i>	
	None.	
4.	<i>Toolkits Update</i>	
	<p>Progress update on Sustainability Toolkit</p> <p>JR said the toolkit is due to be launched at an RAEng event taking place 18th March 2024. The contribution submission and review is complete. JR said it is now time to look towards the next phase of development – dissemination and reach.</p>	

	<p>Progress on Ethics Toolkit</p> <p>JR said the toolkit is getting high usage. The EPC Executive are currently reaching out to potential funders. JR asked committee members if they have any contacts please let the EPC Team know and they will follow up. JR has a meeting next week with a potential sponsor, a tech company to discuss a set of materials in AI to use in both the Ethics and Sustainability toolkits. MS said the Engineering Council are doing a lot in this space. JR and MS to discuss further.</p> <p>JR said there is now an Ethics Ambassadors Community and leadership positions have been announced. Sarah Hitt and Sarah Junaid have been invited to present at the SEFI Spring School in Berlin and other events.</p> <p>The toolkit search function is now working and we are getting it ready for launch.</p> <p>Conversations are taking place regarding two other potential toolkits, H&S and Security and there is also the work on Neurodiversity. FN said she does work with students on H&S and is running a project within her institution so would be willing to help with the toolkit.</p> <p>BG suggested contacting Amy Clark at Octopus Energy Group. BG said she will make an introduction to JR.</p>	
5.	<i>Neurodiversity Project Update</i>	
	SF said a neurodiversity webinar has taken place where information on Foothold was shared with members. The webinar was well attended and there is clearly a lot of desire to do supportive work in this space. At the webinar we launched the intention to get more active and now have an informal champions network. SF has worked on this with Lisa Brodie and has had a meeting with Amanda Kirby to discuss working together. SF hopes to get Amanda Kirby to attend Congress. SF said there is some appetite to organise a summit with a view to thinking about a manifesto for neurodiversity in engineering. SF said there is lots of support and opportunity but little impact as yet. GH asked if the committee can help. GH said Lucy at Arden has done a recent event in this regard although it won't be engineering focussed. GH suggested SF contact Lucy to discuss.	
6.	<i>Maths T Levels Project Update</i>	
	JR said there is a paper included for information and he would be pleased to receive any feedback. JR said there is a discussion about A Levels suitability and that is why another phase is required. JR said all Level 3 qualifications need to be looked at as part of the project. It would be interesting to have a comparative tool. JR added a link to the feedback survey in the chat for committee members to complete.	
7.	<i>Horizon scanning and scope of work</i>	
	GH said the Engineering Council will be stopping secretariat support for the EAB panel. GH said IET have said they will facilitate and chair but should the EPC put their hat in? JR said we want the Board to exist. BG said is there anyone we could work with who could take over? JR said he, GH or JM should write to Paul Bailey	

	<p>saying our membership would like to see continuation of the EAB and invite him to respond. JR said we could offer to assist but would need funding. We would also need the PEI's on board. JR said he would be grateful for assistance in drafting the letter so will discuss with GH and Dave Allan. CNS offered to contribute. GH said she and Dave Allan will draft a letter then circulate to the committee for comment. JR said moving forward this might help the EPC get involved with PSRB's as there is currently no relationship.</p>	
7. <i>Any other business</i>	<p>JR reported that at a recent RIKT meeting, he was asked if the EPC should recommend academics have professional recognition. We could host a discussion on the topic but don't think we should adopt a position. BG said she doesn't think it is our role. JR said we could put an article on the website regarding the pro's and con's.</p> <p>SF shared the link to the Advanced British Standard consultation response and asked for feedback.</p>	
8. <i>Date of next meeting</i>	RT to create a doodle poll for the next meeting. Action: RT	2402-02

Action log

Reference	Agreed Action	By
2402-01	Previous minutes to have draft watermark removed and reloaded to website as confirmed minutes.	RT
2402-02	RT to create a doodle poll for the next meeting.	RT