



**Engineering Professors Council
Minutes of the meeting of the
Education, Employability and Skills Committee (EES)
held on 20th May 2025 via Zoom**

Present via Zoom

Johnny Rich (JR), Clive Neal-Sturgess (CNS), Georgina Harris (GH), Mike Sutcliffe (MS), Matteo di Benedetti (MB), Alan Brown (AB) and Abel Nyamapfene (AN)

With

Stella Fowler (SF) and Rhian Todd (RT)

Apologies

Faith Nightingale (FN), Kay Bond (KB), Andrew Thorn (AT) and Sravanthi Sashikumar (SS)

		Action ref
1.	<i>Apologies for absence</i>	
	Noted as above.	
2.	<i>Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2025</i>	
	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.</p> <p>Previous minutes to have draft watermark and highlighting removed and loaded to website as confirmed minutes. Action: RT</p>	2505-01
3.	<i>Matters arising not on the agenda</i>	
	None.	
4.	<i>Updates</i>	
	<p>JR reminded the committee that EAN Congress 2025 will take place 9th-11th June in Manchester and encouraged all to attend. JR also told the committee about the Jonathan Seville Roundtable taking place 28th May to discuss the future of professional registration and encouraged attendance.</p> <p>JR said he has been campaigning for the EPC to have observer status with the National Engineering Policy Centre and is now being invited to events.</p>	

	<p>JR told the committee there has been discussion around the idea of engineers taking an oath. There are a number of draft oaths. JR said this feeds into the discussion of ethics. JR asked the committee if they have a view on this and a view on what the EPC should be doing about it. BG said a conversation around it would be fantastic but the idea of landing on an oath seems disproportionate to value. MS said there are different approaches across the sector so is this something where we can provide resources? AN said he thinks chartership should be streamlined and maintained rather than adding something else. MDB said it would be an interesting conversation but we already have ethics in place so is it needed. JR suggested we arrange an online debate with arguments from both sides. The committee agreed. JR asked the committee for suggestions on proposers and seconders and said he would take it forward, probably in the next academic year. Action: JR</p> <p>JR shared a link to an article written by Rhys Morgan (RAEng) regarding a project to embed greater levels of Data-Centric Engineering (DCE) in UK engineering degrees. There is a short questionnaire attached to it which JR encouraged committee members to respond to and share.</p> <p>JR said work has begun on the Complex Systems toolkit in partnership with Quanser and the hope is to launch in the Autumn. JR said the Ethics toolkit has had over 8000 views with the case studies being most popular. JR said toolkits are being widely used. JR mentioned a recent addition being the EDAP toolkit and also the Inclusive Employability toolkit. MS said this shows a return on investment for members. JR said he will see if he can pull together data into a blog or report on toolkit views. Action: JR</p>	<p>2505-02</p> <p>2505-03</p>
5.	<i>All in for Engineering</i>	
	<p>SF referred to paper EES25/05-02. SF said there has been a huge amount of work in this space. The vision is to have a framework behind which there will be various supporting resources. SF is working on a neuro-inclusive assessment workshop with more details to follow. SF said they are still trying to find funding which Amanda Kirby has agreed to match.</p>	
6.	<i>Neurodiversity Framework</i>	
	<p>BG referred to paper EES25/05-03. BG said the framework gathered with other materials will form part of an EDI toolkit. BG asked for comments on the paper. AB said whenever any change/mapping like this comes in the objection from academics is that it is more work to do. AB also said reasonable adjustments for students are clear but not for staff and some staff may find some of the tasks difficult. AN said there should at least be a framework for institutions to measure where they are at. MS said 'normalising difference' – does it need to be more stand alone or more inclusive in its approach? MS said he sees it as part of a continuum rather than being distinct. AB said doing this work creates better programmes for all which is the underlying message. BG asked if there is anything distinct about the engineering world, anything you might expect to see? AB said a variety of assessment is really important. BG asked the committee to get in touch with any further thoughts.</p>	
7.	<i>House of Lords Autism Committee call for evidence</i>	
	<p>SF referred to the brief paper included which lists background and a suggestion as to how the EPC might respond. SF said she had a discussion with Anne Nortcliffe and Roger Penlington and would now like support from the committee to respond. SF asked if we should respond, and if so, should we focus in on work we have already done? AN asked if there is available resource to respond. JR asked what distinctive message we could give the enquiry that they won't get from anywhere else? SF said she is inclined to do something brief and focused. BG and AN offered to look at the draft.</p>	

8.	<i>OfS Strategy Consultation</i>	
	SF referred to the meeting papers and thanked MS and GH for their contributions. SF said the response is live on the website.	
9.	<i>Horizon-scanning and scope of work</i>	
	JR said he was looking at the grant letter that was published yesterday and has had a request to comment on it. SF said there is a consultation by Medr around quality and standards in Wales that the EPC may wish to respond to. SF said she will work with GH on the response.	
7.	<i>Any other business</i>	
	None.	
8.	<i>Date of next meeting</i>	
	6 th October 2025 at 10am.	

Action log

Reference	Agreed Action	By
2505-01	Previous minutes to have highlighting and draft watermark removed and loaded to website as confirmed minutes.	RT
2505-02	JR to organise an online debate around 'oaths' in the new academic year.	JR
2505-03	JR to look into creating a blog/report on toolkit views to publish on the website.	JR