



The Knowledge Network

THE INSTITUTIONS CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING AND ADVANCING ENGINEERING EDUCATION WITHIN UK UNIVERSITIES

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INTRODUCTION

- The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) was formed in 2006 by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) and the Institution of Incorporated Engineers (IIE) and now has more than 150,000 members worldwide. The history of the Institution is, however, long and can be traced back to 1871.
- IET is the largest professional engineering society in Europe and the second largest of its type in the world and has offices in London, Beijing, Hong Kong, New Jersey and Bangalore. A major aim for IET is to be a Knowledge Network with a Global Reach.
- Robin McGill took over as the Chief Executive of IET at the start of 2007 and I joined the Institution as Director of Qualifications in July 2006.



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IET INVOLVEMENT IN ENGINEERING EDUCATION IN UK UNIVERSITIES

- Student website, IET Circuit (<http://www.theiet.org/circuit/>)
– Dedicated student area for technical information exchange and life skill tools
- Problem Based Learning Project – Financial assistance to help universities develop resources to deliver to students
- Work Based Learning – “Gateways”
Kingston/Hertfordshire/Northants/Staffordshire
- Power Academy – Power companies sponsorship, work experience for power students
(<http://www.theiet.org/poweracademy>)
- Scholarships e.g. from (<http://www.iet.org/awards>)



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ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION

- 25 and 10 year awards
- 86 Universities
- 1,000 programmes
- In May 2007 first Accreditation in China joint BUPT/ QMC degree programme – UK education in China
- Underpinning knowledge and understanding for UK-SPEC competences – eases Registration process
- Partnership Approach – to improve quality of university education, advisory visits, peer assessment
- Support HERRG Agreement (Higher Education Regulation Review Group)
- QAA Agreements



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OTHER INITIATIVES

- Support Higher Education Subject Centre
 - Steering Committee
 - INSPEC Journal abstracts
- MEI Conference – Further Maths for UK
 - 21st May 2007 at Savoy Place
- Bologna Conference in partnership with EC^{UK} & RAEng 5th October
 - following House of Commons Select Report and Ministerial Conference in May 2007. Allowed to assimilate by interested parties before Conference
- IET TV linked to JANET - <http://www.iet.tv>
 - readily available high speed data access for research seminars and Technology Channels
- Call for Papers - Edinburgh NCC Antenna and Propagation
 - Showcase research
 - Proceedings generated



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OTHER INITIATIVES

- New Engineering Diploma Working Group
 - Ensuring the content is an 'A' level standard for access to Engineering degrees – brief Shadow Ministers and Government
- Career Manager
 - Pilot into Universities can be used by student members.
 - PDP system in place – based on UK SPEC competencies framework
 - Would welcome interest from Universities
sgodman@theiet.org
- Education Sector Panel
 - Policy comment from Government papers