

PRESS RELEASE 5 MAY 2010

HEaTED MOVING FORWARD: HE EMPLOYERS HAVE THEIR SAY ON THE TECHNICAL WORKFORCE, OPINIONS CAPTURED FOR THE FIRST TIME

HEaTED, the national training organisation that supports people responsible for technical staff training across UK HE, has just published the findings of an employer survey on the training environment for technical staff. "Many staff surveys have been conducted in the past, indeed HEaTED ran one in 2006 and one in 2009, but this was different", said Matt Levi, HEaTED Executive Director. "The surveys objective was to compliment the staff survey by finding out the views of employers as well as employees and in doing so ensuring that HEaTED services to the sector were up to date, useful and relevant".

"63 HE members and more knocking at the door"

"78% of employers find HEaTED specialist training courses useful for their staff"

Publication of this coincides with the third HEaTED (Spring) Newsletter that keeps training and development colleagues informed of over 240 specialist skills courses for technical staff, as well as profiling technical staff case studies and talking about the future of this service that now has over 60 HEI members up and down the UK. In this edition Professor Keith Burnett, Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University and Chair of HEaTED makes it clear that all in the HE sector have a role to play in influencing the future of HEaTED.

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Professor Burnett said "I have been so impressed by the energy and enthusiasm that has been generated for the HEaTED initiative and delighted by the huge range of activities and subsequent support that there is for what we are trying to do, not just for Technical Specialists but for the whole of HE".

"HEaTED has done fantastically well in such a short space of time. We are currently attracting huge interest and engagement and growing as an organisation more now than ever as our message gets through, but we need more time to cross the self-sustainability threshold. If we could find funding to support us for a minimum of another 2 years we could realise the great potential HEaTED has and lay down a legacy for future HE and Education Technicians generations to come. The alternative is to lose what we have built and no-one can surely think that is an option given the progress and achievements. The damage to HE and Education in the UK would be irreversible".

MATT LEVI, HEATED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Despite this universally positive response to HEaTED from employers and technicians themselves the agenda is in jeopardy unless further partial funding can be found from September 2010.

More information on HEaTED and links to the Employers Survey Report and Spring Newsletter can be found on the HEaTED Website www.heated.ac.uk

For more information contact:

Matt Levi
HEaTED Executive Director
matt.levi@heated.ac.uk

www.heated.ac.uk