

# Teaching and Learning Issues in the Disciplines

An HEA Funded Project

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CHEAD Membership & Networking Meeting, 21 May 2015

# Teaching and Learning Issues in the Disciplines - Overview

- The Higher Education Academy (HEA) is partnering leading learned societies and Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs) to conduct research into the state of higher education learning and teaching in a wide range of subjects taught at HE.
- Each learned society / PSRB will gather up-to-date thinking among its members who are HE academics in its discipline in order to establish current behaviour and thinking in teaching.

# Object

To further enhance sector knowledge and understanding of the key teaching and learning challenges faced by academics at a discipline level, and the resources that are currently used in addressing these.

# Rationale

- The HEA wants to identify key themes and issues arising from grass-roots HE academics across the full range of subject disciplines in order to best understand the sector's needs from a discipline perspective.
- It will use the research across a range of discipline areas to form a national report on HE pedagogy.
- It is also keen to generate increased engagement with PSRBs and learned societies following a period of transition.

# Method

- The HEA requires all participant bodies to hold three focus groups, each made up of six to eight of their members who are active higher education academics in the relevant subject/discipline area, using a prescribed set of questions, and produce a report summarising the focus groups' findings.

# The Questions

- What are the key resources you use in your own teaching?
- What are the learning and teaching challenges you face in your subject area/discipline?
- How do you think the teaching in your subject area is likely to evolve over the next few years?
- What gaps can you identify in the current coverage of teaching and learning resources for your subject discipline and how might your PSRB/Learned Society or the HEA best address the identified gaps?
- What gaps might emerge in the near future, given the projected evolution of teaching and learning in your subject?
- Can you think of any other ways in which your PSRB, learned society or the HEA could support and advance learning and teaching in your subject--based practice?

# Who is taking part?

17 confirmed participants:

- Academy of Medical Educators, British Sociological Association, Association of Law Teachers, Historical Association, Conference of Heads of University Departments of Economics (CHUDE) / Economics Network (EN), Council for Higher Education in Art & Design (CHEAD), Society of Biology, British Academy of Management (BAM), Political Studies Association, British Psychological Society (BPS), Council for Hospitality Management Education (CHME), Academy of Marketing, Royal Geographical Society, Council of Professors and Heads of Computing (CPHC), British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES), Leisure Studies Association (LSA), Standing Committee of University Drama Departments (SCUDD)

9 other professional or learned bodies are considering participation.

# The HEA & the disciplines

The new structure will include 4 heads of discipline areas :

Heads of

- Arts and Humanities
- Health and Social Care
- Social Sciences
- STEM



# The HEA & the disciplines (2)

The HEA is seeking to work collaboratively with subject bodies such as learned societies and professional or regulatory bodies to understand and respond to the needs of discipline-focused HE academics by, e.g.

- Creating shared paths to professional status (where relevant) or membership
- Jointly developing resources for the discipline
- Jointly developing and promoting CPD events and courses
- Working with accrediting bodies to further develop the accreditation process

# Conclusion and questions

Teaching and Learning Issues in the Disciplines is the start of a conversation with key players in the PSRB / learned society sector.

We are interested in your views...

Your questions and comments...