

LTSN-ICS Monthly Newsletter



March 2004



University pay

Members of one of the higher education unions, the Association of University Teachers, are taking industrial action in many UK universities.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/3513831.stm>

Future of the RAE

The four UK funding bodies published a joint statement on the future of the RAE on 11 February. The statement makes clear the funding bodies' response to the recommendations of the review of research assessment (HEFCE 2003/22), taking into account the views expressed by the sector and its stakeholders in the subsequent consultation. It presents initial decisions about the structure and timetable for the next RAE.
<http://www.rae.co.uk>

Sentient Learning's recent membership with Learning Lab

Sentient Learning's Managing Director, Andrew Davidson, said, "We strive to provide the most innovative solutions to universities & colleges to enhance interoperability between core systems and improve accessibility to vital learning resources. Our membership with Learning Lab will support us in our mission to enhance the quality of learning and teaching worldwide.
http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/news/issue44/sentient_learning.htm

eLearning Scotland Website

The new eLearning Scotland website aims to provide quick and easy access to the eLearning networks that currently exist in Scotland, helping users access the information and support they need.

The website will offer:

- * an up-to-the-minute guide to Scotland's eLearning community
- * a platform to enable collaboration and information sharing
- * a voice to represent all aspects of the industry
- * a global gateway into the eLearning community

Please visit the site and register to take full advantage of this free service.
<http://www.elearningscotland.org>

'Theory and Practice of Online Learning'

The book has chapters by practitioner/scholars involved in the major systems components of large scale online program development, delivery and support -as well as a few theory based chapters.
http://cde.athabasca.ca/online_book.

Official Guide of the British Association for the Advancement of Science

For 6th formers approaching university and undergraduates not yet in their final year we list over £76 million of funding available through sponsorship and placements as part of a university course ? up from £50 million last year. And our detailed advice and insights on what companies look for in sponsorships and placements should help offer an advantage in the application process.
<http://www.everythingyouwantedtoknow.com>

Results of Student Feedback from the 2003 National Student Survey pilot

A pilot of the National Student Survey was conducted during 2003, and results are currently being analysed. This short document presents some interim results of overall feedback provided by nearly 15,000 respondents. It also provides some illustrative examples comparing feedback across a range of HEIs, which remain anonymous, within particular subject areas. A full report is due in March.

<http://iet.open.ac.uk/nss>

HEFCE discusses restructuring of e-Universities' activities

The Higher Education Funding Council for England is holding immediate talks with e-Universities on restructuring its activities and services. On 25 February the HEFCE Board considered a review of the company's plans – in the light of changes in the global financial market, and the fact that student recruitment had not met planned targets in the first year.

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/hefce/2004/euni/>

The value of my involvement with LTSN-ICS

Susie Andretta, Senior Lecturer in Information Management comments upon involvement with LTSN-ICS started in 2002.....

<http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/news/issue44/susie>

The Value of my Involvement with LTSN-ICS-Margaret Kendall

Margaret Kendall, LIS lecturer and departmental contact at Manchester Metropolitan University comments upon involvement with LTSN-ICS in the last two years.....

http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/news/issue44/Margaret_Kendall.htm

LTSN-ICS Events Planned for March

LTSN-ICS have numerous events throughout March, A full listing of events are currently on the LTSN-ICS website.

<http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/UpEvents/eventpage>

Tech professor's online robotics textbook features 3-D imaging

A New Mexico Tech electrical engineering professor has developed an online robotics textbook that utilizes the most up-to-date Internet technology, such as three-dimensional imaging and interactive math formulas, and has made the cutting-edge coursework freely available to users throughout the world.

<http://www.dchieftain.com/news/38233-02-18-04.html>

Music Libraries Trust Bursaries

The Music Libraries Trust will award a limited number of bursaries to students and music librarians new to the profession wishing to attend the

Annual Study Weekend of the International Association of Music Libraries

(IAML:UK & Irl) taking place at Trinity College Dublin from 11th to 14th

June 2004. The deadline for Applications is 2nd April 2004

http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/news/issue44/music_bursaries.htm

JORUM project

The JORUM project is funded by the JISC to scope a service to be launched in August 2005, which will offer access for teaching and support staff in all UK F/HEIs to re-usable learning objects and teaching support materials held in a repository.

Volume I - Overview and Recommendations

Volume II - Review of Software Systems [not to be published in its entirety due to commercial--in-confidence material - a short version excluding this material will be made available as soon as possible]

Volume III - Report on Requirements Work

Volume IV - Report on Requirements Work - Appendices

Volume V - Metadata

Volume VI - Accessibility

Volume VII - Digital Rights Management

Volume VIII - JORUM and the JISC Information Environment

<http://www.jorum.ac.uk>

Resources

Generic Centre Update for Subject Centres

<http://www.ltsn.ac.uk/genericcentre/for-scs>

Higher Education Funding Council for England

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk>

Update on CETLs

HEFCE and the Higher Education Academy held two CETL Bid Support meetings in London on 2nd and 4th March. These information briefings included details of the CETL scheme, how bids can be developed and the support available. If you would like copies of the materials from these events please contact [LTSN-ICS](#). The main sessions were captured on video and will be made available as streamed media via the Academy website in the near future. Up to date details on this resource and details of other new developments relating to CETLs will be made available via the [LTSN-ICS website](#)

The [Higher Education Academy](#) have developed a section of their website which will include FAQs as they develop during the first stage of the CETL bidding process. These FAQs will be developed from contact and discussions between the LTSN and HEIs.

[HEFCE](#) is also developing their own website FAQ section which will address issues related to the bidding process and the [bid document](#).
<http://www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk/news/cetls/index.htm>

Comments to LTSN-ICS.

www.ics.ltsn.ac.uk

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