

Transfer of Student-led Activity

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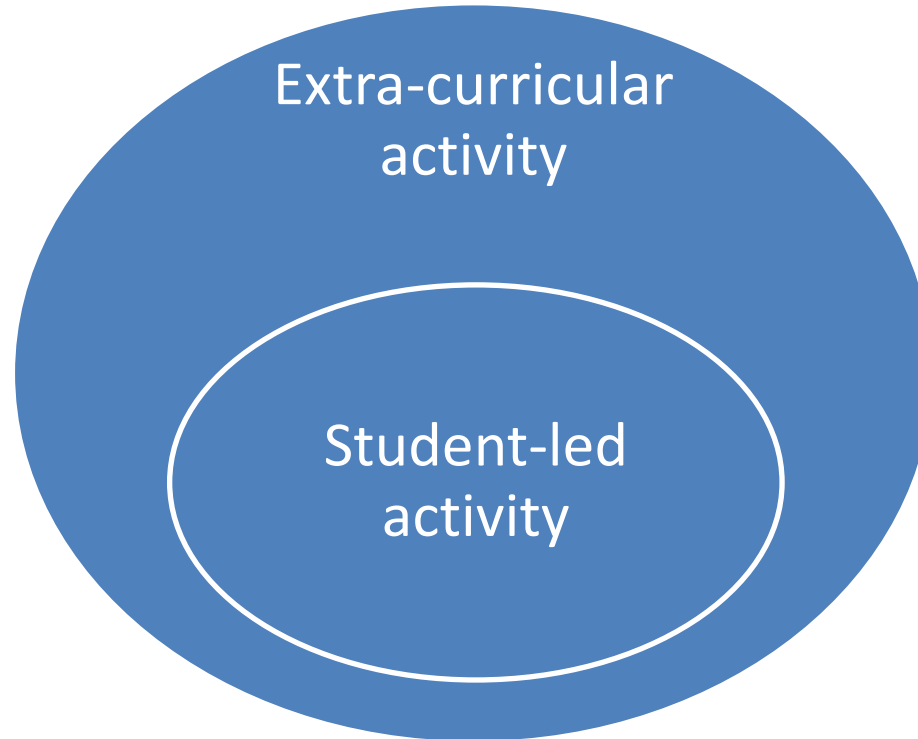
Fiona Lamb – Loughborough University



Overview

- Student-led Activity – what it involves
- Student-led Symposia – how it works
- National Student-led Symposia – still evolving
- Student Presentations – international audience
- **'Practice Transfer Custodians'** – adopted by seven universities

Student-led Activity



Student-led activity is extra-curricular, employer-focused, voluntary activity - started and run by students themselves

Benefits of Student-led Activity

Develops employability skills that enable students to stand out from the crowd:

- Communication
- Project management
- Team working
- Fundraising
- Finance management

Setting-up Student-led Activity

- Loughborough sets up student-led activity with HE STEM funding
- Imperial College London has well-developed and extensive student-led activities
- Loughborough staff and students are aided by Imperial staff and students
- Working relationships developed

Examples of student-led activity



Loughborough – Ecofuture an energy saving challenge

Imperial – housing and sanitation in El Salvador



Student-led Symposia

Further HE STEM funding obtained for two student-led symposia:

- One at Imperial and another at Loughborough

Organised by students:

- Programme, delegate packs, name badges, catering preferences, registration etc
- Staff are delegates (not organisers)

Students from Imperial and Loughborough set up a National student-led symposium

Loughborough Symposium Committee



National Student-led Symposium

- Idea developed from the two previous symposia
- Event held at Imperial last year
- Loughborough and Imperial students meet up with students from Brunel
- Next event is planned for November 2012 at Loughborough
- Still evolving and relationships developing with various student societies

First National Student-led Symposium Poster



The poster features a central graphic of four stylized human figures in red, blue, orange, and green, arranged in a circle. A blue horizontal bar with white text is overlaid on the center of the figures. The background is dark with a subtle yellow and orange glow.

STUDENT NETWORKING

STUDENT-LED PROJECTS SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday 16th November 2011

Location: Skempton Building - Level 2 (Imperial College London)
Time: 14:00 - 19:00

A National Symposium about Student-Led Projects for Students

Giving you the platform to knowledge transfer with like-minded students from around the UK and ideas about starting your own student-led project

Who is going to be there...

     and many more.

For more information, or to register, visit:
www.student-ledprojects.co.uk

  Organized by:  

Student Presentations

- Loughborough and Imperial students co-authored a paper presented at the first STEM conference in April
- Loughborough and Imperial Students will be participating in a workshop at the EE2012 conference
- Loughborough and Imperial Students will be presenting a poster at the EE2012 conference

Poster of Activities



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Showcasing and extending student-led, employer-focused extra-curricular activity in STEM



The Royal Academy of Engineering



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Rationale, aims & objectives

Student employability skills are well documented as being essential (e.g. BIS, Higher Ambitions, 2009; Browne Report, 2010; Yorke & Knight, 2006). One method of developing such skills is through student-led activity (Engineering Graduates for Industry, RMEng, 2010).

Enthusiasm for such activity at Loughborough and Imperial has been contagious.

This project aims to:

- Further extend students' achievements
- Showcase student activities to STEM stakeholders, students and other HEIs
- Support staff from other UK HEIs to start similar activity
- Extend employer involvement with activities

This is being achieved through a focus on student-led student-organised conferences.

Conferences have been chosen because students will:

- Evidence their academic rigour through presentation and publication of their work
- Foster active involvement of all STEM stakeholders



Student Led Activity: National Space Centre



Student Led Activity: Engineers Without Borders

Unexpected benefits

- Personal satisfaction arising from working with extremely motivated students on such rewarding activities
- Enthusiasm and strong input received from all quarters

Progress to date

- 'Global Citizenship Symposium' held in March 2011 at Imperial College London with 55 delegates. Included invited speakers, panel discussions on 'exploring key aspects of setting up and running projects' and workshops on 'exploring how to make the most of a project'
- Successful Loughborough's Student Led Activities Symposium held on Tuesday 28th June 2011
- Well attended related staff workshop held simultaneously with the Loughborough event
- Ongoing transfer of student-led activities to staff and students at Brunel and Warwick universities, inspired by the collaboration between Imperial and Loughborough at both staff-staff and student-student levels. Interest by a number of other universities.
- Embedding of activity into Loughborough and Imperial through the building of strong links with students' unions, careers centres, employability award structures etc.
- Publication of student on-line conference proceedings by the HEA Engineering Subject Centre. Ongoing publication by staff in journals and at relevant conferences



Global Citizenship Symposium at Imperial College London

Unexpected issues and resolutions

- The biggest issue has been the timing of student-led events to avoid clashes with timetabled lectures and tutorials. Events therefore have to be held at weekends or outside the academic year. Future events are planned and these will occur in the middle of the autumn term to enable the targeting of new students early in the academic year.

All involved in this project would thoroughly recommend it to others – it has been rewarding, fun and worthwhile!

• Project partners: Loughborough University, Imperial College London, HEA Engineering Subject Centre • Target groups: STEM students from Loughborough and Imperial, STEM staff from any UK HEI • Project dates: December 2010 – January 2012

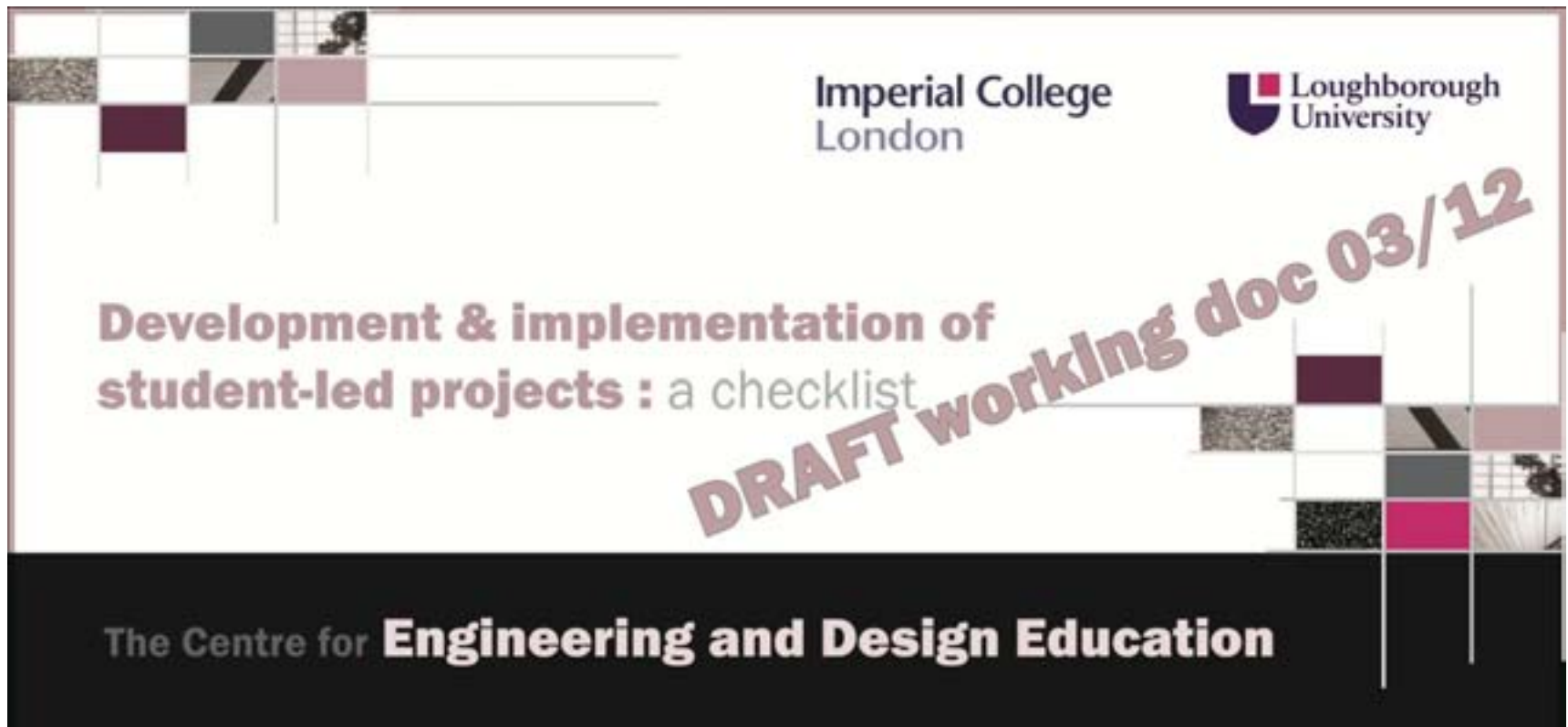
Practice Transfer Custodians

Awarded HE STEM funded 'Practice Transfer Custodian' status

- 7 universities adopt the practice of student-led activities
- Workshops developed for staff interested in setting up student-led activity (attended by staff from over 30 **HEI's**)
- Set up a JISC mail list for student-led activities
- Produced a guide - '**Development & Implementation of student-led projects: a checklist**'.

Development & implementation of student-led projects: a checklist

Proving instrumental in transfer of activity from staff to staff



Final version will be launched in September 2012

Finally

**Question time
and
thank you for coming!**

