Quality enhancement at LSE and in UK Higher Education

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Changing UK higher education sector

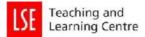
- Relationship between research and education, dual pillars of HE long been key concern of UK HE
- Drivers in external sector
 - Huge increase in nos of students in HE
 - $-\,$ Fees of £1 in 1998 and £9k post-2012 + spectre of debt
 - Marketization of sector competition for students
 - New forms of regulation establishment of OfS -- rise of discourses around student outcomes + value for money
 - Data informing education but also growing trend towards evaluation based on metrics -- TEF and NSS
 - Uncertainties of Brexit
- Also internal more values-based drivers of change





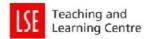
Changing UK HE sector: Quality enhancement rising up the political agenda

- Growing recognition in policy community that we need to:
 - train/develop our academic teachers and reward them fairly
 - develop curricula so they are fit for large diverse student body
- Dearing Report, Higher Education in the Learning Society (1997)
- The Future of Higher Education White Paper (2003)
- Introduction of NSS (2005) and TEF (2017)

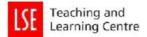


The rise in importance of quality enhancement

- 'We recommend that institutions of higher education begin immediately to develop or seek access to programmes for teacher training of their staff, if they do not have them, and that all institutions seek national accreditation of such programmes from the Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education.'
- Higher Education in a Learning Society, Dearing Report, 1997



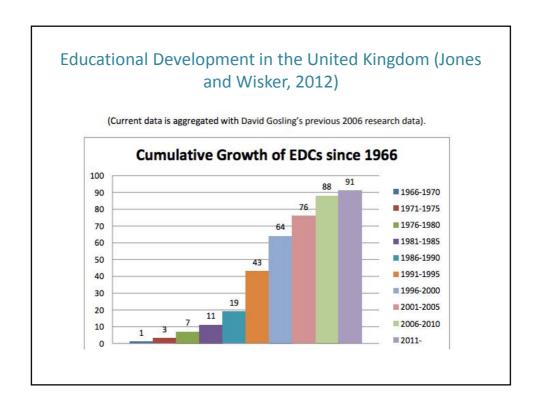
- 'In the past, rewards in higher education –
 particularly promotion have been linked
 much more closely to research than to
 teaching. This is a situation that cannot
 continue. Institutions must properly reward
 their best teaching staff; and all those who
 teaching must take their task seriously.'
- The Future of Higher Education, Government White Paper, 2003



Quality enhancement

- Rise in the number of educational development centres
- Supporting the development of academic practice & education strategy of the university
- 'Academic development is intertwined with the micro politics of the institution as well as the wider politics of higher education.
- Stephen Rowland, The Enquiring University, OUP (2006, p. 72)





What is academic practice?

'Academic practice includes research as well as teaching and the learning that results from both. It includes the other activities that are essential to being part of an academic community.' (Stephen Rowland, *The Enquiring University*, 2006, p. 74)





Ethos of academic development

- Continuous professional development
- Evidence based practice (theoretical and practical)
- Connections between research & education
- Enhancement-led
- · Gentle influencing
- Reflexive practice and exchange
- Debate/contestation
- Building scholarly inclusive communities of practice





Bill Williams on Unsplash

Rewarding educators in higher education

- How are educators and education leaders currently employed, rewarded and regarded in research-intensive institutions?
- How and why are these practices changing, and how might they change further to meet the needs of such institutions in the modern era?



LSE 2030

Education for Global Impact

- Education for 2030 and beyond – focus on enquiry based and research rich education
- Students as agents of change
- An inclusive, accessible and supported student experience
- Education and skills for life



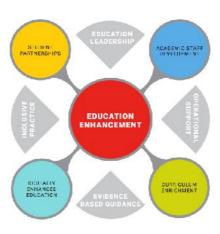
LSE Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC)

- What we do?
- Challenges to our work





LSE Teaching and Learning Centre/ Learning Technology and Innovation



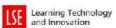
Learning Technology and Innovation

Enabling education enhancement and fostering innovation in teaching and learning through the use of technology

- Learning technology systems (Moodle, lecture recording, Turnitin)
- Learning and teaching spaces
- Funding and project work to support enhancement and innovation
 - · Online and blended work
 - Students as producers
 - Showcase portfolios
- Departmental advising, resources & developmental workshops









TLC: Educational development & enhancement

Enabling the development and delivery of excellent teaching and learning in the social sciences

- Contribution to strategy and policy
- Inductions
- Qualifications, fellowship, optional events
- Departmental advising
- Funding, exchange & dissemination
- Student Partnership
- Learning Technology & Innovation
- Education Awards





Photo by <u>Dawid Zawiła</u> on <u>Unsplash</u>

Educational development & enhancement

- Contribution to strategy and policy development and implementation
 - Participation in School Committees and working groups
 - Assessment diversification, review of reviews
- Current School strategic initiatives
 - Programme review processes
 - Academic mentoring
 - Attainment gaps Inclusive Education Action Plan



Inductions

- Heads of Department
- New Academic Induction
- Graduate Teaching Assistants







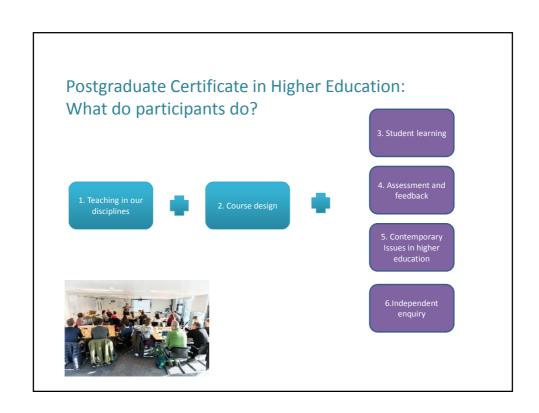
Qualifications, fellowship, optional events

Development of academic staff:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (requirement for interim review)
- HEA Fellowships (Advance HE)
- ATLAS academic development programme
 - Workshops
 - Practice Exchange Forums







Compiling a portfolio

- Opening reflection
- 3 module assignments
- 2 observation reports
- Feedback reports
- Closing reflection
- UK Professional Standards Framework Mapping exercise



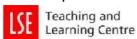
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Accredited by Advance HE leading to HEA Fellowships

Departmental advising

For HoDs, teams and individuals drawing on an evidence base (from across sector and the School)

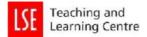
- Preparation for TEF subject level departmental strategy and initiatives
- Addressing attainment gaps
- Programme and course development and review
- Changes to assessment
- Running Bespoke departmental sessions
- Development of individual faculty
- Preparation of teaching statements for promotion





Exchange and dissemination

- Networks Termly Education Forum, Programme Directors, Deputy Heads of Education, education focused staff
- Resources guidance, handbooks, case studies
- Online portals -- LSE Assessment Toolkit, Academic
 Mentoring Portal
- Education Symposium
- LSE Higher Education blog





Enhancement funding

- Funding focused on strategic priorities
 - Welcome, inclusion and community
 - Enquiry based and research rich education
 - Assessment and feedback
 - Student partnership





Student partnership

- Undergraduate programme review
- Development of Academic Mentoring Portal
- LSE Change Makers
- LSE Groups
- SSLCs/committee reps/consultative fora





Challenges to our work

- Navigating the relationship between research and education in an academic career
- Institutional culture
- Incentive structures reward and recognition
- Time and resources
- Student engagement



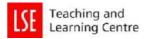
Further information and feedback

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Curricu	lum design and the research-teaching nexus (Healey, 2005) STUDENTS AS PARTICIPANTS				us
	RESEARCH CONTENT	Research-tutored Students learning in small groups with a teacher about research findings	Research-based Students as researchers undertaking inquiry-based learning	RESEARCH PROCESS	
		Research-led Students learn about research findings – focus on subject content	Research-oriented Students learn about research processes		
		STUDENTS AS AUDIENCE			





Pre-course discussion

Developing learning community

Visual media and analysis

Used well, can improve participation and performance of in-class activities





Encouraging good study skills

Hannah Leo Candoc, Wook 8 Blog

57 November 2011

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Formative assessment

Blogging

Quality of engagement with readings

Benefits of peer feedback

Critical, reflective practice is essential to learning





