



Issue 15 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

The following items have been discussed at the most recent SPEP Meeting:

## Rate My Placement Awards

The National Undergraduate Employability Awards and Rate My Placement Awards for this academic year have just taken place. The awards are held annually and there are awards available for students, employers, careers and placement services. The aim is for the Faculty to take part next academic year, with the Placement Learning Support Unit (PLSU) taking the lead. The awards for 2017/18 will be launched at the ASET Conference (University of Kent), 5-7<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Details of previous winners and runners-up can be found at: <http://nueawards.co.uk/archive-2016.php>.

## Student Employee of the Year Awards

Nominations for Student Employee of the Year Awards (SEOTY), organised by the National Association of Student Employment

### Introduction

The Science Placement and Employability Panel consists of Academic and Support Staff representatives who meet regularly to discuss placement and employability matters arising within the Faculty. The SPEP Newsletter has been devised to report back the matters discussed and keep all Faculty of Science staff up to date.

Services (NASES), are now open. Samantha Forde (PLSU) will be chairing at the Annual Conference, held in Nottingham this August, where the winners will be announced. The awards are open to both Further and Higher Education institutions and there also regional and national awards. There are £100 prizes for winning students, employers and institutions, respectively. The closing date for applications is 19th April 2017. SPEP members can expect to receive further information about the SEOTY awards from Samantha at the next SPEP meeting.

## **Eli Lilly Site Visit**

WOWCC representative, Lisa O'Farrell, confirmed that the proposed site visit to Eli Lilly's Speke manufacturing site this March has been cancelled. Due to personnel changes at the company, the site visit was cancelled by the site manager for the time being. Nevertheless, the WOWCC are hopeful that the event can be arranged for the next academic year.

## **WOWCC Extra-curricular Events**

The WOWCC have organised some successful extra-curricular events this academic year. Many of these events, such as "Working in Forensics", were well attended. In response to student queries about options for working abroad, the team also organised a "Working Abroad" event that was open to the whole University. The attendance at this event was lower than anticipated. 75 students registered for the event but approximately 23 attended throughout the whole afternoon. It was noted that the day (Wednesday) and location (James Parson Building) of the event may have been a factor. With the University encompassing various sites, it makes it difficult to select an ideal location for University-wide events in anticipation of drawing wider attendance figures. The WOWCC team are looking to re-evaluate the time and location of similar events for the next academic year. In the meantime, the WOWCC will disseminate details of any extra-curricular events to SPEP members via the SCS-SPEP emailing list.

## **Liverpool SU Faculty Representatives and SimOn**

There are now Liverpool Student Union (SU) Faculty Representatives (Reps) as part of the Student Rep structure. Each Faculty has an Undergraduate and Postgraduate Faculty Rep. The role presents an ideal opportunity for the Faculty to engage with students by working in close partnership with the Faculty Reps. For instance, the PLSU are going to work with the Faculty Reps to raise the Unit's profile with students and to find out more about what students want and need from our support. This partnership is particularly important when considering that Liverpool SU has launched a new software tool, called SimOn, which enables students to give feedback on aspects of their course such as placements and employability. The Faculty Rep Co-ordinator for SCS is Nasreen Hasan, her email address is [N.Hasan@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:N.Hasan@ljmu.ac.uk). The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Faculty Reps for Science are Robert Johnson and Robert Measer, respectively.

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Should you have any information you wish to feed back to the Science Placements and Employability Panel, good practice you would like to share or any input with regard to the items mentioned above please contact your School Representative or Bethany Cragg.

Date of the next Science Placements and Employability Group Meeting: **TBC**