

**PRINCIPAL'S TEACHING EXCELLENCE
AWARD SUPPORT SESSION**

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KEY DATES

- Start now
- Life has been throwing us all curve balls recently – things are always going to get in the way of a planned schedule.
- Book slots in your diary and enforce them if it helps you get it done – there are so many draws on your time that it is OK to make time for you and your achievements.



Innovators
and
teachers
assemble!

WHAT YOU NEED TO SUBMIT

- 1. An example of a teaching or assessment challenge posed, or opportunity for innovative development;
- 2. How you addressed this challenge/opportunity for innovation;
- 3. Details of how you found your solution/idea for innovative development (for example from the literature, through teamwork, through staff training etc); **DOESN'T HAVE TO BE EDUBABBLE!**
- 4. Details of how your solution/innovative development has been/will be communicated to colleagues and/students; **EXTERNAL?**
- 5. Key learning points from your experiences, including any lasting impact on teaching in the future;
- 6. Your plan for evaluating/results of evaluating your solution/innovation.

CRITERIA

- Maximum word counts for each section of the proforma.
- Get a critical friend to look at what you have written - they have to be honest with you – are you actually addressing the criteria?
- Is your evidence weak? How might you take practical steps to strengthen it?
- Get someone to brainstorm with you about the impact/reach your innovation has had – sometimes they are better than you at recognizing your good work.

EVIDENCE

- Metrics
- SCEF comments/ratings not usually enough
- Can you demonstrate impact or reach?
- Avoid naïve comments that you wouldn't let a student off with
- Quotes/popularity contest data are not enough
- Can you see whether there has been an effect on student attainment?
- Has your approach been used by anyone else?

THINGS TO BE WARY OF

- Having published a paper is not enough on its own.
- Edubabble is not enough on its own.
- Being popular and having nice SCEF results are not enough on their own
- ‘my colleagues/students/friends think it’s great.’ – PROVE IT in a way that would be convincing during peer-review.
- Not exploiting all the resources/data you have e.g. do you have statistics, engagement times, attainment data buried somewhere like MyAberdeen that you could harness without much effort/expense?

PRACTICAL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO GET AN APPLICATION READY

- **Log ALL of your activities on PURE.** Include free texts of things that you can. Put in pdfs of posters etc – get your name known and your ideas in circulation.
- Join forces with someone else – can you help each other in the execution or dissemination of innovations/scholarship work?
- Think about what metrics/evidence you might need. What do others use? Not just in your own field – can you adapt the approaches of others?
- Can you exploit our new world that embracing online conferences etc to better engage with your discipline's educational community?
- Can you work with students as partners to help you innovate?

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED ENCOURAGING
OTHER PEOPLE TO APPLY?



LOTS OF THIS ADVICE IS EXACTLY THE SAME
IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP
TRACK PROMOTION

- You need to gather evidence
- You need to get tactical
- You need to identify practical things you can do to increase your profile, reputation, reach and impact.
- Get involved with committees, panels, reviewing activities etc – doesn't always have to be high-profile journals.
- Often you are doing things to save in credit in the bank for an application months/years ahead.
- Be positive! Teachers can do anything!

Where
the magic
happens

...

Your
Comfort
Zone

