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Supporting Engineering Education throughout the UK and Creating Resources for Engineering Educators Worldwide

The Learning and Teaching Support Network for Engineering (LTSN Engineering) is receiving international recognition for its work in assisting the UK's higher education engineering community. LTSN Engineering is the support centre for all UK engineering academics, promoting quality learning and teaching by encouraging the sharing of good practice and innovation through a variety of mechanisms, including providing events and producing resources. All resources produced are available via the LTSN Engineering website (www.ltsneng.ac.uk) and therefore can be freely accessed and used by anyone worldwide. These resources include guide books on topics such as: learning through projects, approaches to teaching health and safety and teaching students with disabilities.

In Summer 2004 LTSN Engineering becomes part of the Higher Education Academy, an organisation established by the UK Government to support quality enhancement and the student experience in higher education. The HE Academy has a remit to advise on policies and practices that impact on the student experience; support curriculum and pedagogic development; and facilitate development and increase the professional standing of all staff in higher education. As LTSN Engineering moves into the HE Academy its role in engineering education may change slightly, but it will still continue to develop essential resources to help engineering educators enhance their teaching and improve the educational experience of their students.

This paper explains the national framework in place to support engineering education in the UK, describes the variety of resources that are currently available to engineering educators worldwide and outlines future plans for LTSN Engineering.

Key words: engineering education resources, national support structures, LTSN Engineering, Higher Education Academy, UK