

Learning & Teaching Conference 2010

Abstract 4B

‘Timeline of anticipation of arrival at university: extending induction to pre-arrival to support transitions’

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In this workshop we will consider recent initiatives to extend the support provided to students to *enable the transition into university* beyond the traditional *induction* period and discuss how this could meet expectations and enhance the *first year experience* both pre and post arrival, in the following ways: -

- Review on a timeline our contact with new students before arrival;
- Hear about recent student experiences first-hand;
- Showcase for discussion examples of initiatives in F.I.M.S. and R.I.O., including pilots with Engineering, of multi-media information packs, phonecalls, webchats and discussion forums where the experiences of current students are an essential resource;
- Look at the use of new technologies in this context;
- Consider induction on arrival to the University;
- Facilitate small group discussions around the ‘what’, ‘when’, ‘who’ and ‘how’ of extending induction, providing the perfect opportunity to review processes in light of the University restructure.

We hope that workshop participants will have had a chance to reflect upon induction from the perspective of a student, and take back ideas to their school/college/service for improving future induction processes to support the transition into university.