

Feedback to applicants for UCL Arena/HEA recognition

15 August 2017

Feedback to: Samantha Ahern

Application for: Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Dear Samantha

Thank you for applying for recognition as a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Your application was recently studied by members of our Pool of Assessors and also assessed by one of our Scheme's reviewers.

Many congratulations, the Panel agreed you should be recognised as a Fellow. They commended the application for:

- Your successful engagement across all relevant Areas of Activity, the clear demonstration of
 the required Core Knowledge and your clear engagement with, and support for, the
 Professional Values of the UKPSF. All your case studies evidence your strong commitment to
 inclusivity and equality of opportunity for learners;
- Your ongoing and pro-active engagement with CPD opportunities, and your active role in also disseminating best practice across the institution;
- Case studies which illustrate how your work addresses both the teaching and research domains, with the provision of engaging and informative workshops for both staff and students, for example;
- Your work to support Research IT Services in creating high quality online training for staff and students, and your expertise in creating effective online environments (as evidenced in Case Study 3);
- Two very supportive references, which provide further evidence of your ongoing contribution to high quality staff and student learning and attest to your excellent liaison with colleagues across the institution.

The assessors suggested that your application could have been further enhanced in the following areas:

- While K5 is met, it's possible that the variety of methods used to evaluate the effectiveness of
 your teaching could have been discussed in more detail in your case studies, and this may be
 an area of your practice to consider further;
- Similarly, K6 (the implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching) is quite thinly evidenced and could have been further discussed and expanded;
- The case studies may have benefitted from the provision of more context and background information, as in Case Study 2, for example.

In section 5 of your application for recognition, you indicated your willingness to remain in good standing with your professional development. We look forward to welcoming you to our UCL Arena community and hope you might be able to contribute to some of our events. We also encourage you to continue to develop your teaching and support of student learning. As you gain appropriate experience, you may be able to work towards an application for Senior Fellow of the HEA.

We will be in touch soon to invite you to a UCL Arena Awards Celebration.

Best wishes

Jane Skirving SFHEA

Chair of the Recognition Panel

