

## Proposal for engCETL Development, Research, Support or Funding Work: An overview

Once a year Loughborough University staff are invited to submit a project proposal for development, research, or support work in collaboration with the staff in engCETL (Engineering Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning). Projects are free of charge and successful proposals are usually assigned the time of one or more engCETL staff members. In most circumstances, activities will run during the next academic year.

### Background to engCETL

In the Spring of 2005, HEFCE created 74 national Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETLs), to promote excellence across all subjects and aspects of teaching and learning in higher education. HEFCE has two main aims for the centres: to reward excellent teaching practice, and to further invest in that practice, delivering benefits to students, teachers and institutions. With total CETL funding of £315 million over five years it represents HEFCE's largest ever single funding initiative in teaching and learning.

engCETL successfully bid for CETL status, to build on Loughborough University's acknowledged excellence in industry focused engineering teaching and the established success of its Engineering Education Centre in providing learning and teaching support. We are located in the heart of the Faculty of Engineering. Our mission is to be recognised as the UK centre for excellence in the research, development and provision of engineering related education through an active involvement with industry. For more information visit [www.engcetl.ac.uk](http://www.engcetl.ac.uk)

**The aims of engCETL** are to extend the processes through which industry makes an input into student learning, making them more sustainable and transferable by:

- enhancing the student learning experience;
- initiating a cultural change that supports a reflective and evidence-based approach to teaching;
- facilitating the production of graduates who are employable, enterprising, productive and innovative;
- being innovative, with a key focus on technology-enhanced teaching and learning;

**The engCETL staff** include a wide range of skills, with a team of learning technologists, industrial and academic coordinators, pedagogic researchers, academics and students. We also work closely with seven seconded academics who operate as the interface between those who work in engCETL and their own department colleagues.

### Example from the June 2008 Project Proposal Process:

Call for proposals opens:	<b>April 30th 2008</b>
Closing date for expressions of interest:	<b>Noon May 12th 2008</b>
Successful proposals announced:	<b>Mid June 2008</b>
Timescale:	<b>July 2008 – September 2009</b>
Submit to:	<b>engcetl@lboro.ac.uk</b>

Proposers are asked to read through these guidelines and contact engCETL with a brief outline of your idea. You will then be contacted by a member of staff from engCETL who will talk through your proposal with you and complete necessary paperwork. All completed applications will be put to the engCETL Panel for formal review.

### What will you need to do?

- Provide timely, subject specific information for the project
- Take an active role in the project steering group and in the evaluation process
- Participate in the end of project showcase

# Proposal for engCETL Development, Research, Support or Funding Work: Guidelines for submissions

## Guidelines – Who can apply?

Applications are invited from any member of academic or support staff in the following Loughborough University departments, which form the engCETL:

- Aeronautical & Automotive Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil & Building Engineering
- Design & Technology
- Electronic & Electrical Engineering
- Department of Materials
- Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

## Themes for the Proposal

Proposals are invited under a number of engCETL themes, including:

- Developing employability skills for non-DIS students (e.g. summer placements).
- Creating enterprise and entrepreneurial activities for students.
- Running staff development events – topics suggested by academics, run by engCETL
- Assistance in disseminating teaching & learning, through events/exhibitions.
- Using online learning to enhance teaching quality and improve the student learning experience.
- Incorporating new audio visual equipment into your teaching.
- Identify and developing student skills required by industry
- Increasing student involvement in engCETL

## What type of proposals are we looking for?

Proposals will generally be one of the following types:

- **Development**
- **Research**
- **Support**
- **Partnership**
- **Funding:** e.g. support can be provided to write bids for teaching related funding.

All outcomes from successful proposals will be evaluated, case studies written and reports produced as appropriate.

## Criteria used for Assessing Proposals

The following criteria will be used for assessing proposals:

- Clearly defined activities and deliverables, which are relevant to the specified themes of the engCETL
- Feasibility of the timetable
- Extent of need/demand for the proposal
- Impact on number of staff / students
- Transferability to other departments
- Proposer's commitment to the project
- Availability of engCETL staff member with the required expertise and time to complete the activity

**Priority will be given to projects that are collaborative or that have named proposers who have not made a bid for an engCETL project before.**

Assessment of the proposals will be carried out by the engCETL Panel, which is chaired by the Dean of Engineering. Proposers will be invited to attend the engCETL Panel meeting to provide a verbal overview of the project proposal, but will be asked to leave the meeting whilst their project is being discussed by the Panel members.

Up to date details of upcoming calls for engCETL proposals can be found on our website: <http://www.engcetl.ac.uk/activities/bid/> as well as information about other funding opportunities for academics: [http://www.engcetl.ac.uk/activities/bid/other\\_funding/](http://www.engcetl.ac.uk/activities/bid/other_funding/)