Volunteer Briefing: IET On Campus

What is it?

IET On Campus is the IET's comprehensive approach to working with universities across the world. The initiative is primarily run by students, with support from IET staff, Local Network (LN) volunteers and a member of their university staff.

Students who decide to form an IET On Campus student group at their university are given the support, resources, connections and inspiration they need to organise activities and events for the engineering and technology students at their university. Popular events are those that develop students' technical and soft skills (e.g. workshops). Students are also encouraged to organise events that will allow them to grow their professional network and to find out what it's really like to work in Engineering and Technology (e.g. site visits to local companies). All of which will help students once they've graduated and are looking for jobs.

IET On Campus also allows the IET to have a unified, consistent presence at universities all around the globe, making students aware of the wide range of IET products and services that are available to them.

Currently there are 70 IET On Campus student groups who are benefiting from being part of the IET On Campus initiative and we'd love for even more universities to jump on board, you can view a full list of recognised IET On Campus student groups here.

I am a Local Network volunteer – how does IET On Campus help me?

The IET On Campus approach is an excellent opportunity for LNs to strengthen their links with universities and students in the local area. The knowledge, connections and experience that your LN can offer students is invaluable and we encourage your LN to be well connected with the IET On Campus group to support students closely. In return, your LN will have a strong pipeline of young, engaged individuals to join your network.

We provide a number of resources to help IET On Campus groups (see below), these also benefit your LN by raising awareness of the IET in the area:

- An IET On Campus activity pack for student groups that includes IET branded promotional items, pull up banners and posters
- A specific IET On Campus Event by Event funding request form (this creates a more streamlined process for providing student groups with funding and support so that students are not entirely reliant on support from your LN)
- An IET On Campus newsletter that is regularly sent to all IET On Campus groups
- Bespoke IET On Campus materials on the online Marketing Toolkit
- The IET On Campus Group of the Year Award to recognise the group that has gone above and beyond the rest over the course of the year.

If you have no direct contacts at the university (either students or members of staff), then a good first step would be to request a meeting with the university's engineering department staff. You can talk to them about the IET's enhanced offering to student groups. If you require any assistance please contact your Community Manager or oncampus@theiet.org.

Our local university/ies already have well established student groups. What can IET On Campus offer them?

IET On Campus is not just about starting new student groups. If there are existing Engineering Societies at the university then the IET resources should help boost their activities whilst also ensuring that the IET is promoted to students.

Our Local Network already works closely with universities and students. Is there anything I can do?

Yes. We would like the IET to be giving a consistent, unified presence all around the world and therefore want all IET student groups that you're in connection with to become part of IET On Campus. To become a recognised IET On Campus group, students are expected to complete a 'Request to set up an IET On Campus student community' form. You can help by putting students in contact with your Community Manager or oncampus@theiet.org, where they will be guided through the application process and become part of a global community of Engineering and Technology students.

It is also important that student groups within your LN area are providing students with a positive impression of the IET and therefore we would like you to engage closely with student groups by reviewing their activities and providing ongoing assistance. Please also tell them about some of the support tools that are available to them, such as the IET Engineering Communities online platform and the online Marketing Toolkit.

I think my local university is an Academic Partner (AP) of the IET. Is there anything extra I need to do?

Yes. There is a strong chance that in the UK, a Regional Development Manager (RDM) will be running workshops at this university. So if you want to engage with an AP university please just let your Community Manager know first. They can then liaise with the RDM to check there will be no clashes. You can check which universities are an AP by going to the AP page on our website.

Where can I access IET On Campus information and resources?

All of the IET On Campus information, forms and resources can be found on the IET On Campus section of the IET's website. Please have a browse through this information and pass this onto any student groups you are aware of or to faculty staff at the university.

This all sounds great but my Local Network has limited funds. How much will this all cost?

Our intention is that LNs will not have to use their own budgets to pay for IET On Campus activity, however several flourishing relationships between LNs and IET On Campus groups have been formed where the two are so well linked that the LN does financially support the majority of IET On Campus activity.

Students can submit an IET On Campus Event by Event funding request form to oncampus@theiet.org. All funding requests from student groups will go direct to the relevant Communities Committee (CC). Generally, the majority of student activities don't carry much of a cost. Of course if you have sufficient funds or are running a joint event with a student group then you can use some of your LN budget.

If you do receive funding requests direct from student groups in your geographic area and are unable to help then please ask them to re-send to oncampus@theiet.org.

I have some specific questions. Who can I ask?

If you do have any questions or comments please speak to your Community Manager, or alternatively contact oncampus@theiet.org for further information.

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