HEIDS

19th June 2024
University of Stirling

Action Items

Chair: Clare Taylor

Welcome		
1		Claire Taylor opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanked Microsoft for a wonderful evening last night.
Microsoft – AI & Copilot - A realistic approach for the end users and how we meet their needs.		
2		Alan Crawford, Education Modern Workplace Specialist at Microsoft provided an overview of the many flavours of Copilot and provide plenty food for thought with regards to the types of AI we might wish to use going forwards. Alan spoke to the key considerations for AI transformations, what are your goals and how can AI help achieve them. He highlighted the self assessment tool to allow us to establish if we AI-ready and also mentioned Microsoft Fast Track which can do an assessment for us. There was a discussion regarding the age groups that could use Co-Pilot and noted that there seem to be some inconsistency with the online documentation **ACTION: Alan to share details after the meeting.** It was noted that there is a new attribute in Entra to make sure we provision accounts correctly **ACTION: Alan to circulate documentation to help ensure we are provisioning account correctly in Entra.** It was suggested that if you can save 11 minutes a day over 11 weeks of use, you would offset the cost of Copilot. Results from an Early Access Program survey reported that when questioned, 77% of respondents would choose access to Copilot over free lunch! When looking at the possible concerns of Copilot, it was highlighted that sustainability not on the list **ACTION: Alan agreed to check on the impact of Scope 2 emissions and report back** It was questioned if we could receive reports on the usage of Copilot for which Alan highlighted the Viva suite of tools that are being expanded and it was noted that the licensing of Copilot was unclear. **ACTION: Grid of licenses and what comes with which license to be generated and circulated.** Alan closed his presentation highlighting the art prompting and the ingredients of a good prompt, touched on Copilot Studio and reminded us that we could sign into the free version of Copilot for M365 using our tenancy credentials and noted the resources available at adoption.micorosoft.com
Annual General Meeting		
3		The [minutes](#) from the last AGM were accepted with no actions recorded. Upon reviewing the Constitution, it was pointed out the title of the [online version](#) required updating. No other changes were required **ACTION: Online constitution page to be updated.**

		The Secretary stood down having served their two-year term.
		As there were no nominations for the role, Claire Taylor (Napier) proposed Mike Whyment (Aberdeen) be reappointed as Secretary for a further two-year term. This was seconded by Fraser Muir (Heriot-Watt)

Meeting

4		The of the minutes of the last meeting were accepted.
		Actions from previous meetings
		6.1 Universities Scotland Report was covered during the agenda item
		6.2 Follow up on the members Poll helping to identify the most favourable day and possible future supplier presentations.
		The results were as follows

Colour	Day	Value
● (blue)	Monday	5
● (orange)	Tuesday	7
● (green)	Wednesday	6
● (red)	Thursday	11
● (purple)	Friday	8

		A call was made asking for institutions to host future meetings, noting the intension to hold the meeting across the north, south, east and west of the country. Colleagues were reminded of the possibility of potentially using supplier premises to hold meetings if required.
		The recent online meeting with Hays was discussed where they provided more details of the skills academy.

Trickle

5		Rebecca Christensen – CMO
		Rebecca provided an engaging presentation showing the Get it done, growth mindset at Trickle that aims to empower everyone to have a voice. She gave a high-level overview of the functionality of their platform highlighting the importance to both ground up, as well as top down communications.
		Rebecca agreed to follow up after the meeting and arrange a more in depth product demonstration for any institution that was interested to learn more.
		ACTION: Interested parties to attend the demo and be introduced to Paul Reid.

USECEC Workshop strategic prioritises

6		Victoria Dishon
		Scope of group: Focus on efficiencies and effectiveness of working together across the sector, with actions which often or specifically are targeted to have a positive impact with regards to addressing the climate change emergency.

		Focus: USECEC will act to identify the key strategic and operational priorities within member institutions with the aim to develop an action plan to deliver meaningful and measurable progress in these key areas. The annual planning forum workshop is scheduled for late June to facilitate the discovery phase and to draft an initial action plan for consideration. Annual planning forum – HEIDS membership assistance in identifying areas of strategic and operational priority. VD issued a survey form to gather strategic and operational priorities from HEIDS members, with the following areas identified and discussed: • Financial sustainability – Doing more with less/being more efficient with what we have, what place does AI have to enable and access efficiency and at what cost? • Digital transformation – not a net zero cost, how to leverage our collective and individual institutional data to make better informed choices which empower institutions to consider changes to processes, people, and estates in a shared way. • IT as an enabler, working in partnership with the other professional service groups to support change programmes. **Next steps:** VD and two HEIDS representatives to attend annual planning workshop at Dundee University, June 2024

Group updates and Feedback

5		**APUC – Michael McLaughlin** APUC circulated a written report in advance of the meeting and encouraged members to complete the surveys contained within the report.
6		**Universities Scotland - Ulrike Peter** Ulrike had to leave the meeting and supplied the following via the Teams chat I want to thank Victoria for her support and would be grateful for: 1. feedback on the draft programme/agenda for the Forum on 27 June, 2. suggestion of topics/ideas for collaboration, and 3. seeking attendance from 2 further members of HEIDS
7		**Jisc – James Gillanders** Jisc circulated a written report in advance of the meeting. James took the opportunity to again highlight the Jisc newsletter Headlines and encouraged colleagues to sign up if they had note already done so.
8		**HEFESTIS – Brian Henderson** Brian made colleagues aware that he is due to retire from the University of Aberdeen in two weeks. He went on to report that the company in a stable and healthy position, with the budget process underway for 24/25. UniDesk have secured a new Scottish college as a customer and are asking the board to approve a new member of staff Two new non-Scottish universities have joined the CISO share, with the grant funded Scotland public sector work going very well.

9		**UCISA – Deborah Green**
		Deborah asked that if colleagues had not already done so, please fill in the following two surveys, [Copilot survey](#) [Oracle Java Survey](#)
		UCISA has been honoured with a prestigious **"Best of British Award"** for our exemplary contribution to the Higher Education Sector. Awarded by Business Reporter and published on Independent.co.uk, this award is a testament to our unwavering commitment to excellence and the profound impact UCISA and its membership have had on higher education and the people working within the digital landscape.
		Sarah Cockrill (Canterbury Christ Church University*)* was re-elected as Treasurer and Matthew Flower (University of Wolverhampton) was re-elected as secretary both with your unanimous support. The nominations for the chairs of our Special Interest Group committees were accepted and the chairs duly appointed.
		There were two elected positions to be filled and I am pleased to confirm that Nick Gilbert from the London School of Economics and Political Science and Mark Johnston from the University of Glasgow were duly elected.
		There continues to be significant amounts of active representation work on-going with multiple providers. Please join the relevant confidential Teams groups if you wish to be kept informed.
		Appointments – new head of representation joining & new head of operations (internal appointment)
		Lobby work ongoing at the government level.
10		**NCSC** There was no update provided.

AOCB

11		It was noted that Alan Rowley has left UWS This was the last HEIDS meeting for Kris Getchell as he leaves Fife College and intends to spend some time learning fly planes.
12		Colleagues also noted the enormous contributions that Brain Henderson has made as he retires from the University of Aberdeen at the end of the month. He will however still continue attending HEIDS as he is still the interim CEO for HEFESTIS
13		**Future meetings**: • 26 September 2024 – University of Aberdeen

Attendees in person

Ben	Holme	(St Andrews)	James	Gillanders	(Jisc)
Catherine	McMillan	(Strathclyde)	Jill	Martin	(UHI)
Claire	Taylor	(Napier) | Chair	Kris	Getchell	(Fife College)
David	Robertson	(Queen's Uni Belfast)	Mark	Johnstone	(Glasgow)
David	Smyth	(Queen's Uni Belfast)	Michael	McLaughlin	(APUC)
Deborah	Green	(UCISA)	Mike	Whyment	(Aberdeen) | Secretary
Fraser	Muir	(Heriot-Watt)	Victoria	Dishon	(Heriot-Watt) | Vice Chair

Attendees on line

Brain	Henderson	(Aberdeen & HEFEITIS)	Kenji	Lamb	(College Development Network)
Claudette	Jones	(Dundee)	Scott	Keir	(QMU)
Frazer	Greig	(Abertay)	Thomas	Stoner	(Jisc)
Ian	Robotham	(Aberdeen)	Tony	Weir	(Edinburgh)
Jem	Taylor	(UHI)	Ulrike	Peter	(Universities Scotland)
John	Maher	(UHI)			