

Dear Colleagues,

It has been some time since I was in touch with you about our work on Group H. It has been a very busy time for me because of very important commitments here in London, which took up a large part of last year. However, things are returning to normal now, so I can return to the work of Group H.

At the time we were last in contact, we had decided to conduct a short survey, based on the following principles:

- We probably need to ask relatively few questions, so we might want a letter rather than a formal looking questionnaire.
- The questions are likely to be open ended, so we might wish to give examples of what we mean, not to restrict people but to guide them
- The key things we want to find out about are: types of interaction with Industry and their usefulness; examples of good practice and innovative links with Industry, especially including involvements in teaching; and a review of the current opinions of Industry about what they look for from Universities.
- Most universities already have a number of fairly obvious types of contact with Industry, such as industrial lecturers, site visits, industrial placements, etc. We can record they type of interaction and get some idea of how effective and useful they are thought to be. However, we must bear in mind that some of this would have been done in EUCEET 1 Working Group 3, and we don't want to repeat.
- Collecting examples of good practice is something we have not done before. I have given some examples of what we are doing at Imperial, to indicate the sort of things we might include and to prompt colleagues about topics to include.
- In seeking industrial opinion, we will review the existing literature, not conduct new surveys. I think we want proper references and a short (2 page?) summary of all the articles and surveys, in English, covering the main findings. This will need to be current, so I suggest that we ask for material published in the past 2 or 3 years.
- Although we will ask all members the first two questions, it might make sense to nominate one person per country to do the literature review and summary.

With these points in mind, I have prepared the following survey. I think it should go to all members, but as indicated, we might wish to take the third question out and sent it to one nominee per country. If we decided to do this, we should be able to find a suitable person from the list of those who have taken part in our discussions and working sessions up to now.

All being well, we should be able to agree how to proceed and issue the request to all our members in early April, and ask for replies by the end of May. This will give me time to prepare a report and let you see it for comments etc, in good time for the Istanbul General Assembly. Please let me know what you think,

Regards,  
Colin