

# UK Physical Sciences Centre

Paul Chin



[www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci)

# Overview

- The Academy/ Subject Network
- UK Physical Sciences Centre
- Our activities – what we do
- Key examples of our work

# The Higher Education Academy

- **Our Mission**

Our mission is to support the sector in providing the best possible learning experience for all students.

- **UK Physical Sciences Centre**

Enhancing the student learning experience in Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy and Forensic Science within the university sector

## The Team

- Director – Tina Overton
- Manager – Paul Chin
- Communications coordinator
- Academic Coordinator/Project officer
- PT Consultants (3)
- Administrator(s)
- PhD student
- 10 staff, 6.3 FTE (7.3)

# UK Physical Sciences Centre

- Discipline network
- Discipline support
- Discipline events
- National conferences
- Resources
- Publications
- CPD with discipline focus
- Policy support/brokerage
- Development project funding
- Academic innovation

# Publications

- Regular e-bulletins
- National newsletter (Wavelength)
- Reviews journal (Reviews)
- New Directions (in the Teaching of Physical Sciences)
- Practice Guides
- Briefing papers/ Toolkits/ Primers
- Conference proceedings

# National Projects

- Open Educational Resources (OER) Project  
<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci/home/projects/skillsforscientists>
- Working Higher project  
<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci/home/projects/workinghigher>
- E-learning projects (e.g. E-PIP, employability)  
<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci/home/projects/JiscDelElearning>
- WebPA (peer assessment)  
<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/physsci/home/projects/WebPA>

# Networks of support

- Locate your own subject centre
- Find out if you have a local contact in your dept
- Locate forums of interest to you and subscribe!
- Test the water by attending some events  
(travel costs etc can often be covered with a some begging)
- Get involved yourself – become a departmental contact for your subject centre or start up a SIG?

## Development project funding

- Regular, annual provision of funding
- Calls out Dec/Jan, deadline March
- Start September (12 months)
- About 6 projects funded each year
- Excellent record of outputs
- Fund holders invited on national deptl seminars