The Royal Academy of Engineering

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RWD/pf/3031

Dear Alice

Science Higher Education in 2015 and Beyond

As your Committee is already aware the Academy is undertaking a complementary study on the engineering education undergraduate in UK universities entitled *Educating Engineers for the 21st Century*, the Terms of Reference of which are attached.

The first major report *Educating Engineers for the 21st Century – The Industry View*, (undertaken with Henley Management College) together with the Academy's *Commentary*, was launched at our symposium *Innovation in Engineering Education* at the RSA on 30 March 2006. The Henley Report and Commentary (hardcopies enclosed) are accessible on the Academy's website www.raeng.org.uk/henleyreport and the presentations at the symposium are also available on the Academy website (www.raeng.org.uk) under Past Events.

The Study is now being taken forward by establishing the University Departments' View. The attached Questionnaire (also accessible through the front page of our website) has been sent to all Heads of Department in Engineering (and some in Computer Science). Replies are coming in and it is hoped to have an initial view of the general response in time for the Working Group's next meeting on 23 August 2006. It is anticipated that this will lead to a series of information briefings and discussion groups. The first of these on the Bologna Process is already being discussed with Engineering Council UK and the Engineering Professors' Council. It is hoped to conclude the Study by December 2006.

I will keep you informed of developments so that we can insure that there is minimum duplication/overlap between our studies. It might be beneficial for the two groups to meet to compare progress as the studies develop.

Please do not hesitate to call on me if you require further detail or information.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Dr Robert Ditchfield
Director, Education Affairs
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