

Regional, special and pedagogic interest groups! RIGs, SIGs and PIGs

The Association fully wish to support individuals and groups who wish to work together around a common interest and theme. This could be for a short-term piece of project work or something with a long-term goal. We have drafted some brief guidance notes to help (adapted from ALT with permission and thanks, available:

https://www.alt.ac.uk/sites/alt.ac.uk/files/public/Special_Interest_Groups_20100121_v5.pdf).

Interest Group (IG) Policy

This policy provides you with guidance for setting up an 'Interest Group' that is on-behalf of, or represents the interests of the Association of National Teaching Fellows. Of course, this does not preclude any other activities that you or your organisations may wish to conduct on behalf of the national teaching fellow group.

What is an 'IG'?

Many societies and bodies reflect a wide variety of interest groups, hence our wishing to keep the remit broad. An IG brings together NTF individuals / groups / organisations around shared ideas and themes.

And IG may be a regional group (RIG), those with shared pedagogic interests (PIG) or those with other special interests (SIG, e.g. HE professional groups, a policy group). However we do not wish to at all restrict the nature of these groups.

For an IG to form we would encourage the establishment of a LINK person to lead the day-to-day running of the group. If the group expands, you may wish to adopt the model of CHAIR and SECRETARY. These people will be the primary contact between the IG and ANTF committee.

Shared Values and Goals

The IG should have a clearly defined purpose in order to work well. The values and goals of the group should reflect those of NTFs and the NTF Association broadly.

IGs will be encouraged to keep brief minutes of meetings, and feed these into the quarterly CANTF meetings (via SKYPE or attendance if in the locality), and certainly to update the community via the BLOG. We would also encourage a report at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

We do require a link name for the group so that individuals can join at a later date, and the name will be identified via the blog.

How to set up an IG?

In the first instance, email vivien.rolfe 'at' gmail.com with a NAME and OUTLINE for your idea. This is simply so we can make groups transparent via the BLOG SIG page (<http://ntf-association.com/special-interest-groups/>).

We can also provide advice on using Twitter and setting up a JiscMail subgroup should you wish.

With IGs anything goes and we fully encourage groups to reflect the diversity of the NTF community, including all HE professional services, NTFs who are retired or no longer in the sector, and encourage IGs to invite members who may well be in remote geographical locations.

Summary

- Email Viv with the name and outline for the group, and contact details of the group leader.
- Identify any areas of help needed – e.g. Twitter, JiscMail, page on the blog?
- We are just establishing IGs as from June 2015, so do contact the committee (via JiscMail) with broader queries or ideas for operating the groups.