

2011	16
2012	28
2013	23
2014	39

“Love this community”

Report of the 2014 National Teaching Fellow survey

Viv Rolfe, 12th February 2015

On behalf of the Association of National Teaching Fellows Committee

- Final number of responses = 183 out of a Jisc-mail list of 523. One response came via Twitter.
- An interim report presented to the Committee of the Association of National Teaching Fellows (ANTF) in October reviewed the first 120 responses, and at a subsequent meeting, the full survey was discussed in more detail.
- If you wish to look at the data to drill-down further into any aspects of it, then please contact us (see end of document for details).

Respondents and year of NTF award

- Of the 179 people responding to this question, 64% were awarded in the past 5 years, yet, levels of engagement (confirmed in the qualitative statements) is also high in those awarded several years ago.

YEAR AWARDED	No. RESPONDENTS
Unclear	5
2000	1
2001	1
2002	2
2003	4
2004	7
2005	9
2006	9
2007	6
2008	10
2009	10
2010	9

Work status of respondents (181 responses)

- Full-time employed n = 149
- Part-time n = 12
- Retired or semi-retired n = 20
- What came across in the survey was diversity. NTFs are a varied bunch, and many have left academia to other sectors, are retired or have moved to different global geographical locations. Yet many wish to be involved.

How would you like to be contacted by the Association?

- Top ranked by far was JiscMail list followed by a regular newsletter.

Was your current HEA NTF profile up to date?

- Of the 133 people responding, 58 agreed and 75 disagreed that their online profile was up to date. This reflects the movement in the community. Some commented they did not know they had a profile, and many responded by asking how this could be updated.
- Watch out for announcements as to how we can work with the HEA to make this happen.

Other forms of professional recognition within the community

- Principal fellow of the HEA n = 14
- Senior fellow n = 25
- Fellow n = 74

The numbers of NTFs with senior fellowship or more with the HEA seems relatively low. That said, NTFs are a busy bunch with 31 people listing other forms of professional recognition including: chartered status with professional bodies, fellowships of learned societies, lifetime achievement awards, other awards and visiting professorships.

Responses to the question, “what do you want from ANTF membership”? (127 responses)



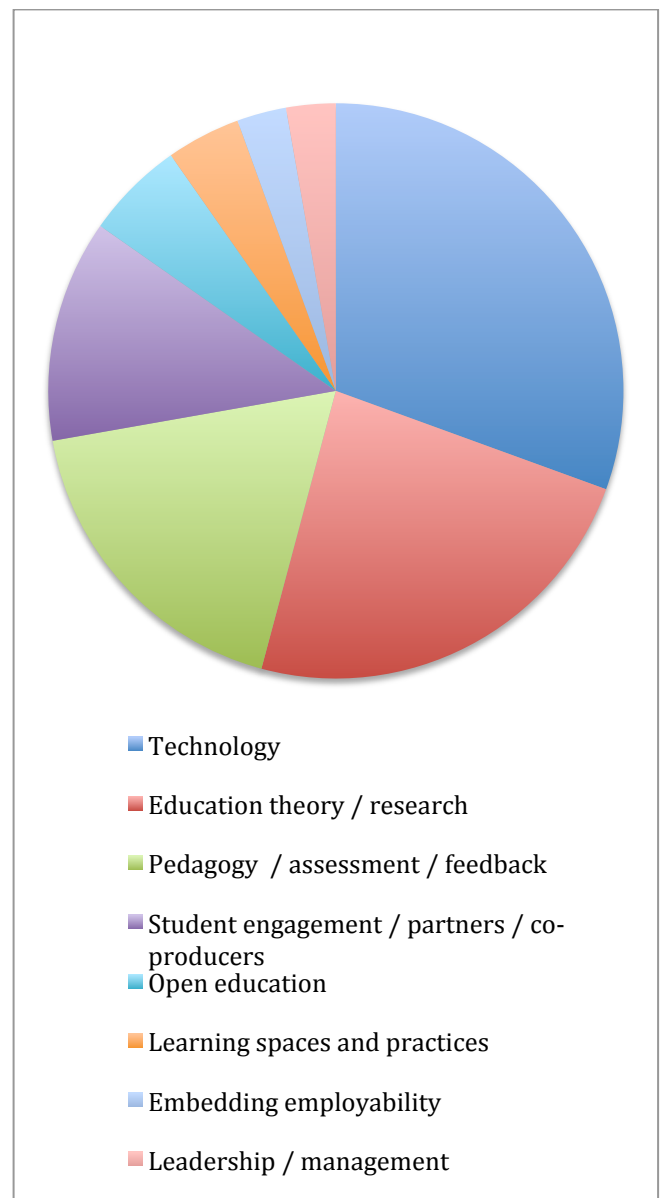
People to write with
Pool of speakers
Powerful community
Publishing opportunities
Share and connect
Spark ideas
Specific subject-group gatherings
Supporting colleagues
To get help
To help others
Writing retreats

- The ‘open comment’ responses were coded into HOW the respondents suggested engagement could happen and WHAT they wanted to achieve. NTFs want to be part of a community with a very strong feeling that this is a group of like-minded people who can provide kinship, comradeship and critical friends.

In terms of understanding WHAT the activities might be, the list was hugely diverse:

WHAT activities are requested?
Access to mentors
Advance quality of LTA
Advice with publications
Build discipline networks
Collaborate on projects
Contacts
Debate national policy
Develop practice
Events news
Exchange ideas
Expert knowledge
Get energised
Information
Inspiration
Joint bids and research
Learn new skills
Lobbying
News of development and funding
NTF conference
Opinions on LTA matters
Pedagogic research

Are there particular areas of expertise or research you are keen to develop? (101 responses)



- NTFs suggested they would like to learn more about learning technology (22 responses), and education research practices and theory (17 responses). Technology included Google glasses, smart phones, online assessment and feedback, and virtual worlds.
- The other popular responses are listed in the chart, and these truly reflected the creativity of the NTFs wishing to learn more about the use of poetry in health, dance in health and understanding non-Western forms of education. The role of student services in helping students achieve goals, internationalisation and professional development were other requested areas.

Levels of activity in the Association (83 responses)

- The activities linked with the Association of National Teaching Fellows (ANTF) are varied and often led by the committee members or the wider NTF community. The key event is the Annual Symposium, but other activities have included the book 'For the Love of Learning' and also the 2014 Book Retreat. People attend the Annual General Meeting, write blog articles, and have hosted ANTF events, NTF / UKPSF training sessions in their own institutions.
- 70 NTFs described activities which they had led within their institutions such as training and workshops.

Reasons for not participating?

- The questionnaire included new NTFs awarded in 2014 who weren't aware of the Association, people who do not have an institutional budget or support for NTF work, and some people have left HE and are unsure whether they could still be involved:

I no longer work in mainstream HE

Left university to set up my own consultancy

- The next was a very important perspective that recurred as a theme through some of the responses, in that we need to raise the profile

of members with roles in areas of the university other than teaching:

The primary focus has seemed always to be teaching and learning (which of course is the key area for most fellows) and while there are a number of those like me who have a student support role, I have been somewhat disappointed that there has been so little activity of particularly relevance to my role.

What ANTF activities would you be interested in being involved in? (Also mention new activities that you would like to suggest) (97 responses)

- There was such a wealth of offers of support it is impossible to list them and as a group we need to think about how to best facilitate networking and leadership of a wide range of ideas to actually make this happen.
- In addition to offering support to lead / host workshops for some of the items mentioned under 'training needs', other interesting areas emerged:
 - ANTF as a lobby group
 - As an institution we would be happy to host an event
 - Gaining some kind of 'recognised' voice, e.g. with government agencies
 - Preparation for Principal Fellowship

(<http://ntf-association.com>) for regular events and news.

6. Helping NTFs get in contact with each other!

We absolutely need to update the HEA profiles web pages – many are out of date, and the pages are no longer a useful searchable resource. (Action – work in progress).

WE NEED NTF HELP NOW!

You may all be aware that this is a busy year as we have had to establish ourselves as an independent body and securing a bank account, sponsorships for which we have been successful. You can help us by doing simple things to help promote our discovery on the web:

Go to our YouTube Channel: UK National Teaching Fellows (subscribe and comment and view. This will help raise our profile on YouTube. Feel free to submit items under Creative Commons licenses!)

Go to our blog: <http://ntf-association.com> (go to home page and SUBSCRIBE! Do comment which will help promote us on the web. Do submit articles and photographs and you will see plenty of great examples of this!). NB ensure you get people's permissions and where possible we would like to share photographs and media under Creative Commons licenses. This again promotes our discovery.

Follow us on Twitter [@ntf_Tweet](#)

Of course we welcome you all at our 10th annual symposium in March (<http://ntf-association.com/antf-symposium-2015/>), but if you cannot make it we are planning the possibility of **live audio and live Tweeting** so that you can participate. Watch out for further details, and also announcements regarding special interest groups.

Please **contact Viv via the blog** for any questions relating to this document, and thank you again for your contributions to this piece of work to help drive the future direction of our association.
<http://ntf-association.com/contact-2/>