

Fellowship

Supporting Statement Template

Your Name	Dr Gregory Owen
Institution/organisation/other	University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, Wales Institute of Science and Arts, Water Front, IQ Campus, SA1 8EW
Job Title	Academic Director
Email address	Gregory.owen@uwtsd.ac.uk
Your Fellowship Status (if appropriate)	Senior fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA)
Relationship to Applicant	Line manager
How long have you worked with the applicant (insert dates)	Since Shahid's employment as a Lecturer – Materials Engineering at Wales Institute of Science and Arts in February 2023
Declaration	In submitting your supporting statement, you are confirming that the applicant's submission relates to their higher education professional practice and that your statement is your own work and has been written specifically for this applicant. If the professional integrity of the supporting statement is in question it will not be accepted. I confirm that I have read and agree with the declaration above. Date: 14/06/2023

Supporting Statement

Please provide your statement to support the applicant's submission for Fellow in the following section. You are required to comment on the applicant's recent higher education practice, providing examples to support your statement wherever possible.

In completing this supporting statement you are confirming that you have read the Guidance for referees. In addition to Descriptor 2 criteria, as a guide, it is important that you comment on the following in your supporting statement:

- your own experience of the applicant's recent HE practice;
- if you have been involved in peer observation of the applicant's teaching and/or support of learning, please draw on examples from this;
- any good or innovative practice and/or contribution to developments by the applicant in teaching and/or supporting learning within his/her discipline as appropriate;
- your perspective on the practical examples provided within the application to illustrate the requirements of Fellow.

Two sides of A4 will normally be sufficient for this category of Fellowship.

I am writing to provide an academic reference in support of Dr Shahid Mehmood's application for the Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) program. As a Materials Lecturer within the Directorate of Engineering, Wales Institute of Science and Art, I have had the privilege of working closely with Shahid since his employment began and I observed his teaching practice during the interview process for his current role.

In terms of recent HE practice, Shahid has demonstrated a deep commitment to excellence in teaching and a genuine passion for the personal and intellectual development of his students. His references and teaching experience which ranges across HE, FE and secondary are testament to this. Through my involvement with the peer observations during Shahid's interview I was very impressed by his ability to create an inclusive and engaging learning environment. He actively encouraged student participation, promoted critical thinking, and effectively utilised various teaching methodologies to cater for the diverse learning styles within the class.

One notable example of Shahid's good and innovative practice was his introduction of a flipped classroom approach. By providing pre-recorded lectures and interactive online materials, he successfully transformed the traditional lecture into a collaborative learning experience. This approach has not only facilitated deeper student engagement but also fostered independent thinking and problem-solving skills among the learners.

Furthermore, Shahid has made valuable contributions to the development of teaching and supporting learning within his discipline. He has taken a lead in investigating, liaising with companies and purchasing equipment for a new materials laboratory exclusively used for teaching and learning. He has actively participated in departmental workshops and seminars, sharing best practices and contributing to discussions on pedagogical innovations. His involvement in curriculum development and assessment design has also demonstrated his commitment to staying abreast of current trends and ensuring the alignment of learning outcomes with industry needs as he has done this for traditional

full time learners, part time learners and degree apprentices. Furthermore, Shahid will be a key staff member in the validation of the materials science degree in 2023/24.

Having reviewed the practical examples provided within Shahid's application, I can attest to his ability to meet the requirements of a Fellow. His reflective practice, evidenced through the use of student feedback, self-evaluation, and continuous professional development, reflects a deep commitment to enhancing his own teaching practice and the student learning experience.

In summary, I wholeheartedly recommend Shahid for the Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. I am confident that he will be a valuable asset to the FHEA community, and his expertise will continue to positively impact the higher education sector.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for considering Shahid's application.