

Fellowship

Supporting Statement Template

Your Name	Dr Irina Neaga
Institution/organisation/other	Wales Institute of Science and Art, University of Wales Trinity St David, Swansea
Job Title	Senior lecturer in Logistics
Email address	Irina.Neaga@uwtsd.ac.uk
Your Fellowship Status (if appropriate)	FHEA
Relationship to Applicant	Colleague and collaborator
How long have you worked with the applicant (insert dates)	13 th February 2023 – 13 th June 2023 and I will be working with the applicant in the next few years
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: 13th June 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 working and closely collaborating with the applicant for FHEA, Dr Moutushi Tanha, since 13th February 2023 when she has been employed as a lecturer in Logistics and Supply Chain Management within the Engineering Discipline Group of the Wales Institute of Science and Art at the University of Wales Trinity St David, Swansea. As a senior academic staff in logistics and supply chain management at UWTSD, I have been part in the interview panel of Moutushi and other candidates in order to recruit a lecturer in Logistics and Supply Chain Management for WISA at UWTSD. We, the selection committee, have appreciated her knowledge of the logistics and supply chain management subject areas. Her PhD in Operations Management from University of Canterbury, New Zealand; and MSc in Logistics and Supply Chain management from University of Nottingham, UK, along with her previous teaching experiences in New Zealand and published research papers made her very suitable and able to start teaching of relevant modules especially for our new Degree Apprenticeship program in Logistics and Supply Chain Management that is currently under development and expected to be validated before September 2023 when we will teach the first cohort. Interview was consisted of two parts: presentation as a mini lecture of a topic delivered by the candidate and a panel interview. I acknowledge her informative and engaging presentation of the selected topic 'Decarbonization of Supply Chain Management' given to her by us relevant for level 6 students. She started with a series of general questions to draw the attention of the audiences (level 6 students) to her session and as such probing questions are very effective pedagogical method for sustaining student attention. Her slides accompanied by her research-informed delivery of lecture complemented each other very well. I know such method improve teaching/learning and facilitate the development of more interactive and flexible instructional practices. Her approach of using contemporary teaching and learning methods and her research-informed teaching were admirable.

Furthermore, in the interview panel Moutushi answered all our questions very well. Her subject specific knowledge, pedagogical skills and engagement with the audience were evident in her answers

demonstrated her knowledge, and creativity. She also expressed her dedication for teaching and continuous professional development in academia.

Moutushi has started teaching modules for Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) program since her joining at UWTSD. She took over a module from one of our colleagues for teaching the module 'Measurement and Quality in Manufacturing' (ACMA4013). I am happy hearing her initiative to redesign the teaching strategy in order to improve student participation and active learning of students in the class. We have had discussion based on our experiences and shared lecture slides and other teaching materials. I think she has very good teaching strategies and new ideas for improving students' engagement. Her decision to use student-centered and teacher-centered learning approach combined is much appreciated, especially for CertHE students, who do not have any formal high school completion qualification and are from different backgrounds in terms of age, occupation, income level and geographic location). Her technique to introduce topics without assuming prior knowledge of the students is commendable.

Moutushi has been dedicatedly developing teaching and assessment materials for our upcoming Degree Apprenticeship (DA) program in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. We are attending all the scheduled meetings along with informal discussions regarding teaching and assessment strategies for all DA modules in order to ensure a quality learning experience for our DA students. As our DA students are working in industries, Moutushi is developing the teaching materials aligned with the demand of the industry which would enable students to achieve the learning outcomes through demonstrated knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and principles of logistics and Supply Chain Management and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of Manufacturing sector. She has also proposed a module titled 'Logistics and Operations Management' for the inclusion required by CertHE program for engineering department here at UWTSD. She also contributed to improve the module specification for 'Technical Skills Development' (ACMA4013) with another colleague.

We are delivering together a level-4 module for CertHE program titled as 'Skills Development in the Workplace' (ACMA4014) for this summer semester. She has prepared the assessment specification for this module. I found her very methodical which is reflected in her effort to develop teaching and assessment materials. Her assessment specifications were aligned with the objective, indicative content, and the learning outcome of the module (appropriate for the level 4 study for CertHE program) and aligned with the university's quality framework Academic Quality Handbook 2022/23 for WISA at UWTSD as well. She will be teaching two modules at master level due to her high level of knowledge and teaching skills. While working together, I think she a great team member, a trusted and committed colleague having also leadership skills in higher education. She has a great attitude and is always willing to help another colleague, in addition to her impressive work ethic and creative teaching and assessment strategies and skills.

I am also aware that Moutushi has undertaken all the compulsory training that is required by all new members of staff at UWTSD. She is pursuing all the seminars and training and development programs which are voluntary out of her passion for continuous professional development.

Moutushi's subject-specific knowledge, self-reflection on teaching practices, documentation of student feedback and evidence of scholarly engagement demonstrates her commitment to continuous professional development and the enhancement of her own teaching practice - all these clearly illustrate her ability to meet the core dimensions of the Fellowship, including Areas of Activity, Core Knowledge, and Professional Values.

Moutushi has been always in contact with me since her joining at UWTSD and I am confident that she is a great asset to the teaching team at UWTSD. I fully support Dr Moutushi Tanha's application to Fellow of HEA based on UK professional standards.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information or would like to discuss any other aspect presented in this supporting statement.