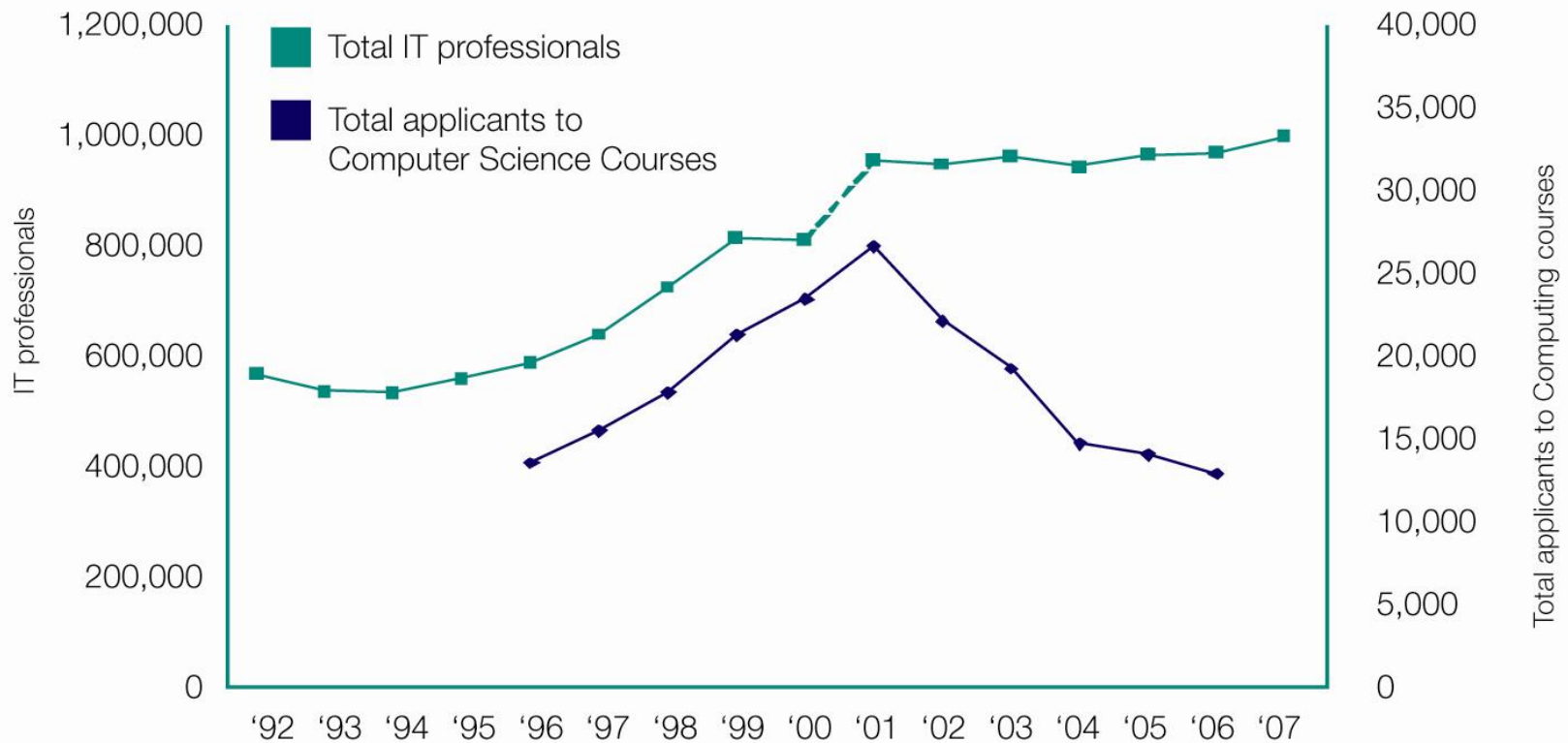


e-skills UK 'Revitalise IT'

An update on developments

Dr. Mark Ratcliffe
Director of HE Engagement
e-skills UK

IT Profs in workforce/ UK applicants to Comp.



'Revitalise IT'



A HEFCE funded project addressing the mismatch of supply and demand in the IT sector.

- University Partners

Birmingham, City, Greenwich, Kent, Oxford Brookes, Reading, Royal Holloway, UCL, Westminster.

- Employers

Accenture, Amazon, Apple, Atos Origin, BBC, BT, Capgemini, Cisco, IBM UK, John Lewis, Logica, Microsoft, Vodafone.

BigAmbition ...



.... Inspiring a new generation

To transform attitudes of over 40,000 14-19 year olds to IT-related education and careers.

- To attract the best students
- To widen participation
- To improve the gender balance

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Featured articles



How to write a good CV

Tips on how best to sell your skills and experience

0 comments



Get a summer job

What opportunities are out there and when to apply

0 comments



Live talks



Join the discussion and question Peter Molyneux of Lionhead Studios how he to become one of the most

Dream job



Creative? Logical? Sociable? Find out your strengths and what career path could lie ahead for you.

BigAmbition Offline



- **Go4IT workshops (year 9)** - hosted at employers' premises, give young people the opportunity to experience what it's like to work for the company.
- **Experience IT (year 11)** - hosted by the university or employer to give pupils an insight into university life and a career in the technology sector.
- **Summer Schools**

Catalyst in 'Revitalise IT'

- Project aims:
 - To help universities showcase to employers what graduates can do:
 - Best Practice Brochure;
 - Wiki wiki.e-skills.com
 - To develop a collaborative approach to curriculum development.
 - Industry Insights I, II, and III

Findings



Research has been undertaken to assess the extent to which graduates are prepared for their initial jobs:

- 500 employers and 1000 new graduates.

Despite continued efforts by universities, criticisms still include a lack of business and interpersonal skills as well as a limited appreciation of how an organisation works.

Catalyst outcome



Catalyst universities & employers recommended promoting placement schemes.

Many universities already offer excellent schemes but in many institutions the take-up is low and falling.

The Challenges



- Main aim is to increase the number of students on placement in UK.
- Many students have made up their mind before going to university
(*c.f.* Business Studies & Engineering).
- A strong marketing campaign is needed in schools and by employers.

The idea

e-skills IT internship

Based on best practice - “stamp of approval”.

Nationally recognised scheme.

Backed by major employers.

Awarded by universities.

Paid for by students (but might include employer sponsorship).

Recognises excellent work of HE.

Recognises the significant contribution made by employers.

Expected to be compatible with BCS CPD.

Applicability



There are many kinds of placement:

- Most take the form of a year prior to the final year.
- Some continue in placements and study part-time
 - e.g. City University's Professional Pathways.
- Some are even post-graduate
 - e.g. Government's latest considerations.

The e-skills internship would be compatible with all.

Already prototyped by e-skills UK GPDA.

The Proposal



- Enable universities to award against a national employer-endorsed scheme.
- Encourage employer participation – making more placements available.
- Enthuse young people.
- Based on nationally recognised ‘employability’ outcomes



Relevant work

Feb 2009

UK Commission on employment & skills:
'The Employability Challenge'

March 2009

CBI and Universities UK publication:
'Future Fit'

UKCES Employability

Self-
Management

Thinking and
solving
problems

Working
together and
communicating

Understanding
the business

Using numbers
effectively

Using language
effectively

Using IT
effectively

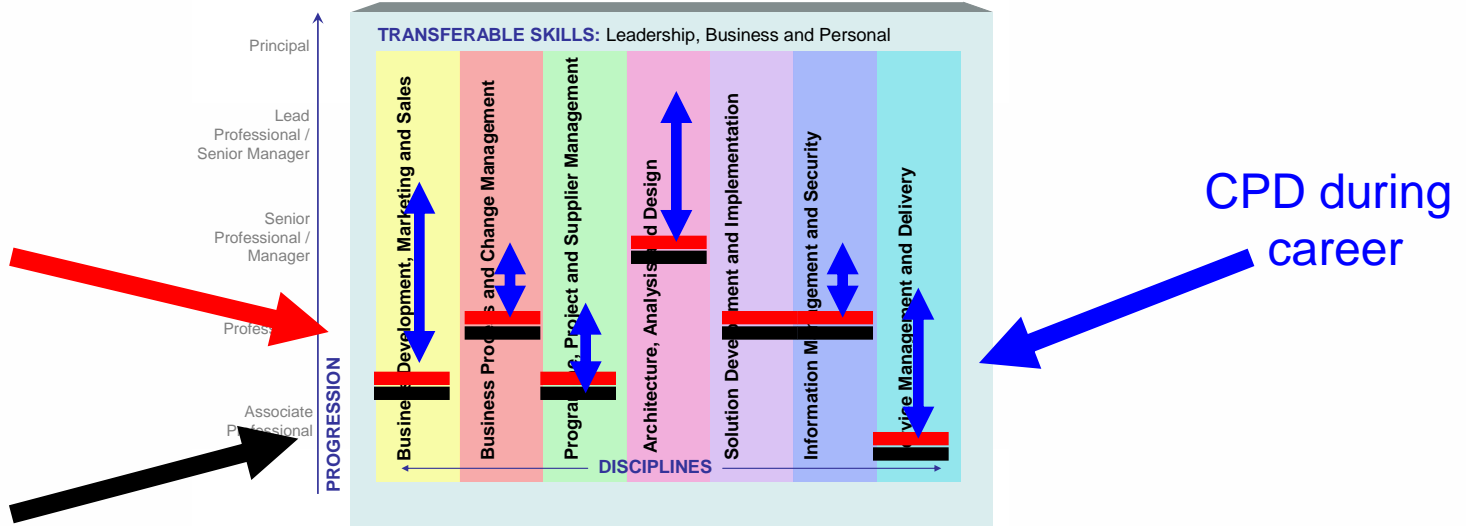
Positive Approach

Vision of the Academy

e-skills uk

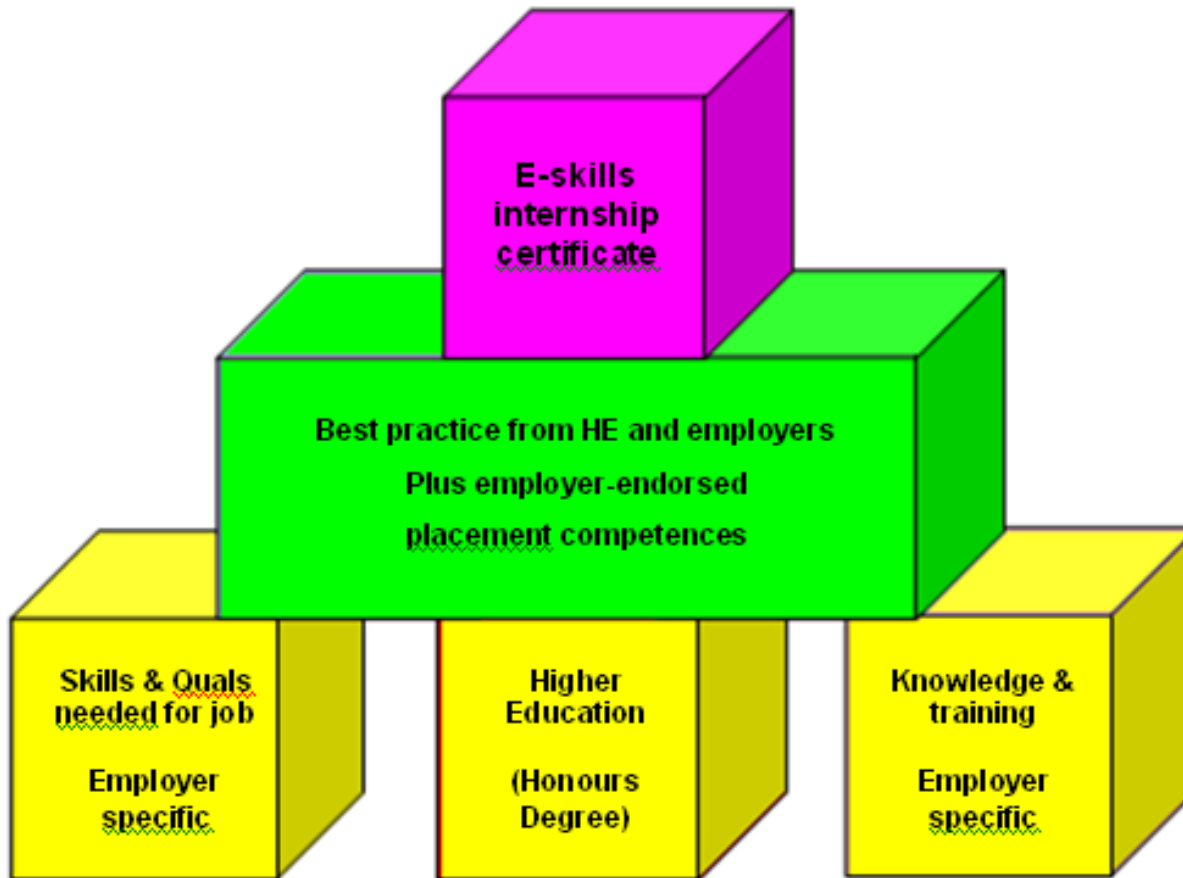
Placement
scheme

On degree
completion



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The Framework



Assessment



Compatible with existing HE Portfolios

- Addresses mandatory units (interpersonal, communications & business awareness).
- Addresses optional units (placement specific).
- Summary sheet signed by employer
 - Keeps to facts, useful for interviews, *etc.*,

Employer / Academic Panel

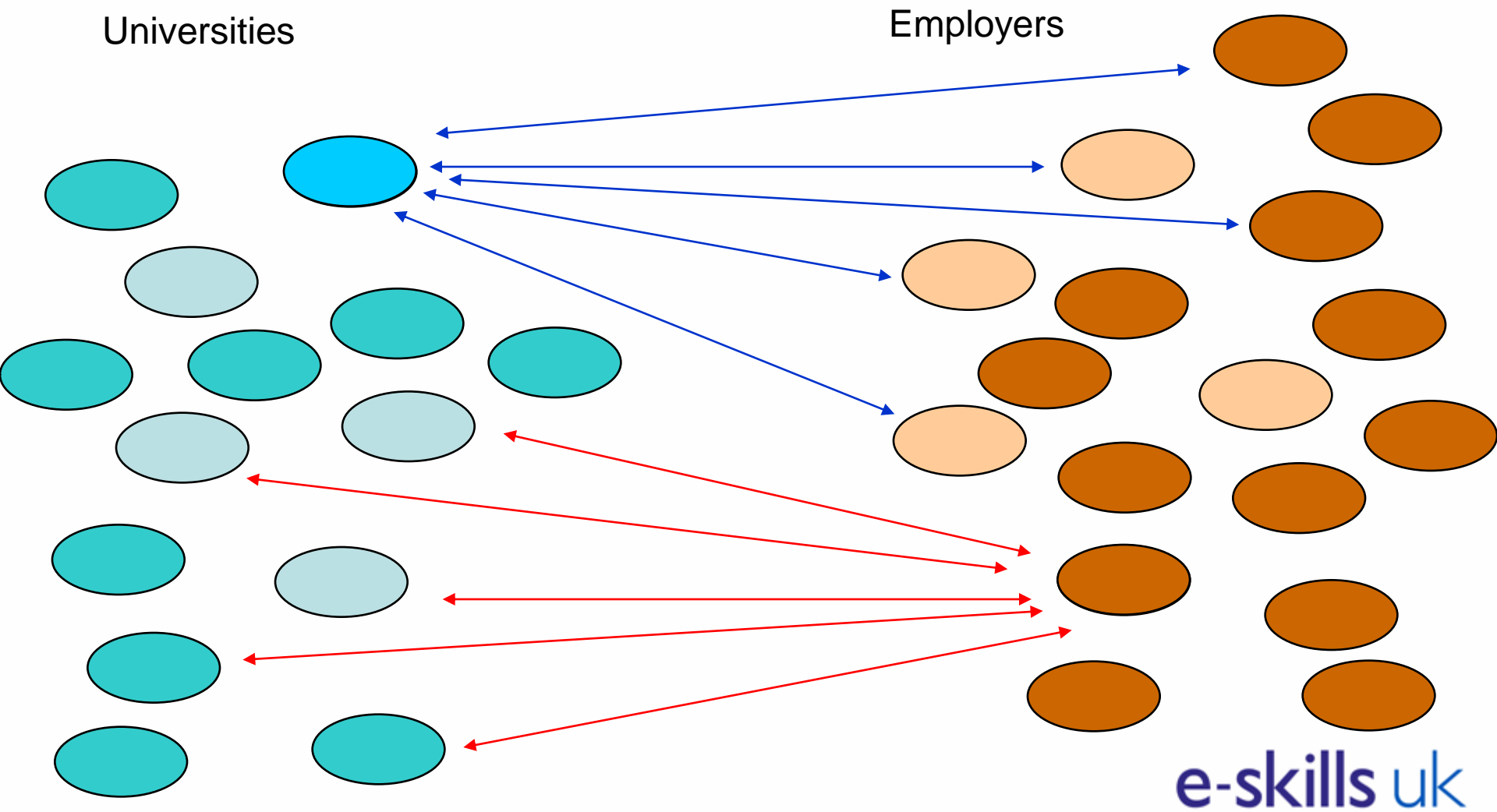
- Joint panel to maximise effectiveness.
- Looking at Best Practice
- Employability outcomes
 - Interpersonal skills
 - Communication in a business environment
 - Business awareness

Proposed Pilot



- May 2009 – approve the framework.
- Oct 2009 – trial with volunteer universities.
 - 8 universities and a small set of employers
- 2009-2010 – marketing campaign.

The promotion





And finally

Anyone interested in contributing to the project please email me at:

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Any Questions?