

Bob Clift



Bob is responsible for the Higher Education programmes at e-skills UK which includes the Information Technology Management for Business Honours Degree programme (ITMB) and the Software Development for Business degree.

Prior to joining e-skills UK Bob worked for IBM in a number of professional and management roles, the last of which was in relationship management working with some of IBM's largest clients.

e-skills UK

e-skills UK is the Sector Skills Council for Business and Information Technology and is responsible for UK IT standards and qualifications.

It covers software, internet, computer gaming, IT services, telecommunications and business change.

Abstract of e-skills Session

Title - The value and impact of e-skills UK industry led curriculum at UK Higher Education Institutions

Software development is a fast growing and evolving discipline. Yet, the HESA figures in 2010¹ showed recent Computer Science graduates had the highest rate of unemployment six months after graduating, with 17% out of work, and recent Engineering graduates at 3rd place with 13% out of work. e-skills UK is tackling the application decline into Computing and unemployment of such graduates by developing an employer-led degree curriculum in collaboration with UK Higher Education Institutions. The new Software Development for Business undergraduate

¹ http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2206&Itemid=278

programme aims to create a balanced curriculum with embedded employability skills, real-life project case studies, employer guidance and support, study-relevant work experience and employer networking opportunities. The collaborative community of students, Lectures and employers across participating UK HEI's will launch in 2014; to improve the pipeline into the software industry through producing highly competent, creative and employable graduates. The current e-skills UK Information Technology Management for Business (ITMB) is running successfully across 14 UK HEI's with improved student attraction, satisfaction and employability rates.