



Archaeology Training Forum Forward Plan and Progress Report 2014

Introduction

The Archaeology Training Forum is a delegate body comprised of representatives of UK-wide and national organisations which have an interest in the issues of training and career development in archaeology. ATF's terms of reference are

1. To promote current training provision by member bodies and others
2. To work with employers, policy makers and funding bodies in the sector to identify a framework of priorities for training and professional development for people working and volunteering in the historic environment
3. To work with training providers and educators towards the alignment of existing and proposed training sessions and units, sponsored or run by bodies represented, to provide training that is relevant and accessible to all
4. To promote engagement with minority groups to broaden equality of access to careers in the sector
5. To work towards agreement on the validation of training units and their integration within a widely accepted professional career structure
6. To undertake liaison across the sector with other bodies and organisations with an interest in the provision of training in historic environment skills
7. To act as the UK's representative on aspects of training and career development in archaeology, working with other national and international bodies.

Forward plan 2013 – 2015

ATF has prioritised four areas over the course of the next two years

1. To focus on career-entry provision and the development of alternative routes into archaeology
2. To develop further its relationship with the higher education sector

3. To increase ATF's visibility through an enhanced web presence, print media and the TORC website
4. To promote the NVQ L3 and the (re)development of the L4 qualification

Progress Report

ATF met four times in 2014 with three of its meetings coinciding with the IfA Conference in April, the FAME Forum in July and TAG in December. Over the year, ATF has

- Discussed early career provision, monitored the status and progress of vocational qualifications and supported a bid for the development of an Apprenticeship for archaeology
- Discussed, with a view to promoting, the Skills Passports developed by David Connolly and Manchester University
- Reviewed training provision and agreed to continue endorsing the OUDCE professional training suite of CPD courses
- Established a better relationship with SCFA and, through individual forum members, discussed better links with employers, work placement demand and provision
- Presented the 2013 ATF Training Award to the The Ardnamurchan Transitions project for the development of a Skills Passport to support students, volunteers and archaeologists generally to identify their skills needs and record the development of those skills.
- Established a new website with enhanced information about the Forum including details of its members, meeting minutes and annual reports and details of the Training Award.

For further information about the ATF, please contact its acting Chair, Robin Turner robin.turner@rcahms.gov.uk or Secretary, Kate Geary kate.geary@archaeologists.net.