

Dr Kevin Byron

Kevin Byron received his Ph.D in Applied Physics from the University of Hull and pursued a career in research in the telecommunications industry for some twenty five years. During this time he was an honorary visiting lecturer at the University of Glasgow and a visiting Fellow at the University of Salford and was elected to Fellowship of the Institute of Physics. Whilst in industry he published over fifty patents, some eighty papers in peer reviewed journals and co-authored two books. He was also involved with a number of universities in collaborative research work with industry and supervised a number of EPSRC CASE studentships. During this period he was also invited to be external examiner at some eight Ph.D students' viva examinations.

Throughout his time in industry he also developed a growing interest in education and training and in particular creative skills, and the award of a three year NESTA Fellowship in 2002 enabled him to set up his own training consultancy to pursue these interests. As part of the fellowship he developed and delivered a number of skills training workshops to a range of groups including school children, undergraduates, university academics, local government managers and employees of corporations and SME's. During this period he was also a senior visiting fellow to The Higher Education Academy (HEA) (physical sciences branch) where he also developed a resource for academics for teaching enterprise skills.

In 2008 he joined the student development team at the University of Leicester. Working with the science faculties he developed and presented a number of research skills workshops and resources for postgraduates as part of the roll-out of the Robert's skills agenda.

He has presented his research in creativity at several international conferences in Italy, Canada, the USA, South Africa and the UK. He is a co-author of the book 'The Alchemy of Innovation' and also authored two monographs on 'Inventing and Problem-Solving' and 'Counter-intuition' published by the Institute for Cultural Research. His work on creativity has also been published in the Times Education Supplement, The Higher Education supplement, Physics World and Wavelength (The HEA journal for the physical sciences).

He is currently Enterprise Education Coordinator at Queen Mary, University of London and a free-lance trainer specialising in research skills, creativity, personal effectiveness and enterprise training for higher education and business.