



DAVID ANDERSON



Why did you want to become a Member of the NESCol Regional Board ?

I am passionate about training and helping others to maximise their own potential through learning and applying knowledge and experience gained.

I have been involved and engaged with stakeholders in the College education arena from both a learner and direct / indirect employee perspective since 1984 and have thoroughly enjoyed working with other highly committed individuals that thrive in this environment. It is my wish to champion this sector for the benefit of all future stakeholders.

It is my strong opinion that the future success of our country and our people relies on a correctly resourced and structured education sector. I am happy to make whatever contribution I can to see that this is put in place for this and future generations.

Describe your experience as a NESCol Board Member so far

I joined the Regional Board in March 2015. During my time as a Board Member, I have been able to develop close working relationships and engage in activities which I hope have delivered a positive effect on individuals, organisations and the wider community.

Serving on the Regional Board has been an enlightening experience for me as it has exposed me to the many variances between public and private sector working environments. I consider this to be an excellent learning exercise for me personally and it has certainly challenged some of my previously held views. I have enjoyed the discipline of the meetings from both a structure and content perspective. I find Board and Standing Committee meetings are always informed, efficient and effective. I am certain that this is greatly assisted by the excellent preparation work done by the governance and senior management teams.

I find the Regional Board to be an open debating environment and have enjoyed bringing my private sector industry experience, perspective and voice to the boardroom. I have always been made to feel welcome and whilst some of my contributions may have been challenging, I have always been listened to and respected by my Board colleagues and feel that my contributions are always given due consideration.

What are the enjoyable aspects of being a NESCol Board Member ?

There are many pleasurable things about serving on the Regional Board. The talent showcases and awards events that we are regularly invited to really leave me with a great sense of pride in our students, staff and organisation, with the graduation ceremonies being the jewel in the crown where we see directly the students getting their rewards for all their labours.

One aspect that quite surprised me was the Strategy Events that are held two times each year. Whilst some of the agenda items for these meetings can appear to focus on some pretty "dry" subject areas, I have always found these Events to be enjoyable and motivational. I think that is down to the passionate enthusiasm my Board colleagues always put into the debates around each subject. I must also say that it is always fun to spend some social time together at the annual residential event.

How do you feel the Regional Board and Board Members make a difference to the College and the North East of Scotland ?

Without an experienced and fully committed Regional Board, it would be difficult to see how NESCol could continue to be one of the leading colleges in Scotland. I believe that we have a group of highly experienced individuals that are working together collectively as a highly effective team to ensure that we continuously improve on all performance measures across the board.

I am certain that we have Board Members that are prepared to go the extra mile to ensure that we continue to deliver improvement and indeed everyone is aligned behind the drive "towards excellence". The diversity of background and experience represented in the individual Board Members at NESCol is both refreshing and highly valuable. This diversity ensures that no matter what subject we are touching on in any particular debate or decision making process, we have a good level of knowledge and experience in the room.

I would highly recommend anyone with the correct skill set and a passion for further education to consider joining the Regional Board.