

# Annual Review Highlights of 2016-17

## SET IS GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

By Tim Weiss, director of the Society for Education and Training

We have had a very busy year indeed during 2016-17 at the Society for Education and Training (SET).

In our second year since launching in May 2015, we saw our membership grow to new heights, and introduced a host of new ways to achieve our mission – to build and promote the professionalism, effectiveness and status of our members, and help them progress in their careers through the development and recognition of their expertise.

Although there are promising signs of increased investment into the further education and skills sector, our environment nonetheless remains unstable and unpredictable. We are facing the implementation of changes and reforms from the Area Reviews process, changing government departments and policies, plans for new technical qualifications (again!) and, not least, the post-Brexit skills challenges that lie ahead.

This means that SET has an ongoing responsibility and opportunity to support our members' teaching and employability so they can succeed and progress through this uncertain climate.

During 2016-17 we further established ourselves as the largest professional membership organisation for teachers and trainers in the UK. We are enjoying increasing popularity and satisfaction ratings among members, and a stronger reputation among leaders and stakeholders as an effective way to support recruitment and retention challenges, and to support the government's FE and Skills workforce strategy.

We also launched a new, reformed and enriched version of Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) in September 2016, which is already demonstrating an impressive impact on candidates' teaching practice, the outcomes of their learners,

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The SET team (l-r): Andrea Veci, Lara Wilks-Sloan, Sarah Morgan, Julie Gibbings, Tim Weiss, Victoria Ibbitson, Lewis Dan, Amber Grant

and the performance of their employer organisations.

By the end of March 2017 membership had risen to 15,200. We're delighted to have grown by almost 10 per cent in the past year, and I'd like to thank every new SET member who has joined our impressive network of dedicated, leading teachers, trainers, managers and assessors, and all the various different types of educators we include from across colleges, training providers, adult and community learning, schools, employers, offender learning and the armed services.

The only cloud in this silver lining is that this growth was not as fast as the very ambitious targets we initially set ourselves. However, after another year working closely with our members, we appreciate more than ever our responsibility to provide a membership body that can continue to add value to your practice and your career – and it is only through that ongoing goal and determination that SET will continue to grow, thrive and prosper.

We're confident that the new features and support we introduced in 2016-17 (and will continue to do during 2017-18) will do just that.

A particular highlight for us was the re-launch of *inTuition*. The new *inTuition* emerged in December 2016 after consultation with members, and is demonstrating a sharper, more topical focus, as well as a richer, even more relevant selection of articles to help you improve your practice.

Similarly, the new SET Online Research Library (powered by EBSCO), our Introduction to Mentoring e-learning course, and our new Careers Focus hub for articles and training, have all been important new additions to increase the depth of our support for your career and professional development.

We're looking forward to going from strength to strength during 2017-18, and would like to thank all our members for their continued support.



Teacher **Michelle Theophilus** is a member of our Practitioner Advisory Group (PAG) and is currently undertaking QTLS. She tells us a little bit about how her membership of SET supports her professional and career development.

"I became a member of SET to further improve my own professional teaching and learning and to continue improving my practice. SET offered a great way of doing this and has enabled me to network with other teaching professionals in a positive environment.

"Since becoming a member of SET, I have discovered a wealth of useful benefits. In particular I have used *InTuition*, SET's online research library, and the Professional Standards Research Map, attended webinars and used the Law Express facility.

"I have found the publications, research material and webinars extremely useful for finding up-to-date research and information that is relevant to my teaching. They have supported me in my planning and provided me with strategies to use with my learners.

"The online research library has helped with my QTLS application and the research map has been a useful reference tool to use in line with my CPD. Law Express were prompt and responsive, helping me with an employment-related query.

"Being part of a Practitioner Advisory Group (PAG) is an excellent way to stay in touch with professionals and make a difference in promoting SET and the benefits it can offer other teachers. I've also been able to use some of the ideas shared in my own classroom."



**Louise Fowler** is a Fellow of SET. She works for Babcock International as one of their Senior Defence Trainers. Babcock has a team of more than 1,000 instructors that continually develop their professional skills to ensure cutting-edge training year on year.

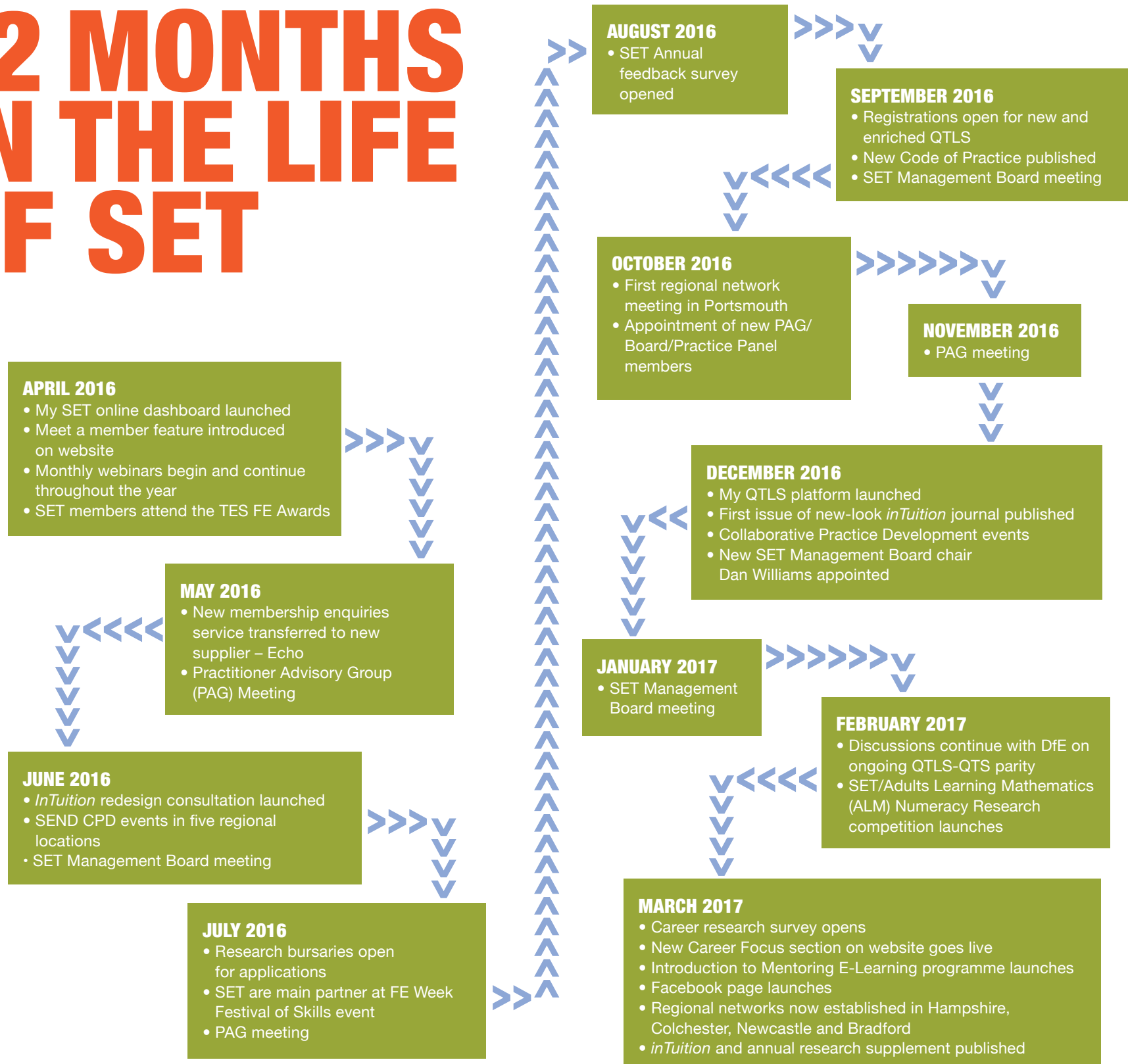
"Since becoming a SET Fellow, I have had lots of invitations to events. This is vital to any practitioner as you get to share your effective practice as well as learn from others.

"Having met with other trainers through SET, I have been inspired to try new ideas, challenge some of my own perceptions and learn more about an ever-growing industry that fascinates me.

"Babcock International have supported me and my fellow trainers to join SET as it offers good-quality CPD that is value for money.

"Having staff who are part of SET promotes a strong sense of professional identity and ensures that our staff are part of a lively community of practice."

# 12 MONTHS IN THE LIFE OF SET



## WHAT DOES BEING A MEMBER OF SET MEAN TO YOU?



**Afzal Sayed Munna, teacher and educational consultant**

SET is a platform for me to upgrade my own personal and professional development that is required to be the best in the FE/HE sector.



**Dave Darwent, teacher**

SET (and the ETF) are the first ever attempt to represent the lifelong learning sector in the same way as the High Education Academy (HEA)

represents higher education institutions (HEIs). Unlike the former General Training Council and Institute for Learning, SET is an opportunity for genuine peer-reviewed standards to be developed, supported, applied and monitored. It offers genuine training, support and guidance, which is directly related to my research interests.



**Sandra Rennie, teacher**

It brings me opportunities to network and collaborate with professional colleagues in many different types of organisations and different teaching

contexts. I see the enthusiasm for professional development and that keeps my morale high and encourages me to carry on working to develop my skills and knowledge. I get regular newsletters and access to online courses. I also enjoy reading *inTuition* and sharing ideas from it with my students. SET makes me feel part of a special profession.



**Ed Sallis, former principal and consultant**

It is very important to me, both professionally and personally. The key aspects of professionalism are having a code of ethics, professional standards and the opportunity to engage with my peers, and SET provides that. When I started in FE, we lacked this.

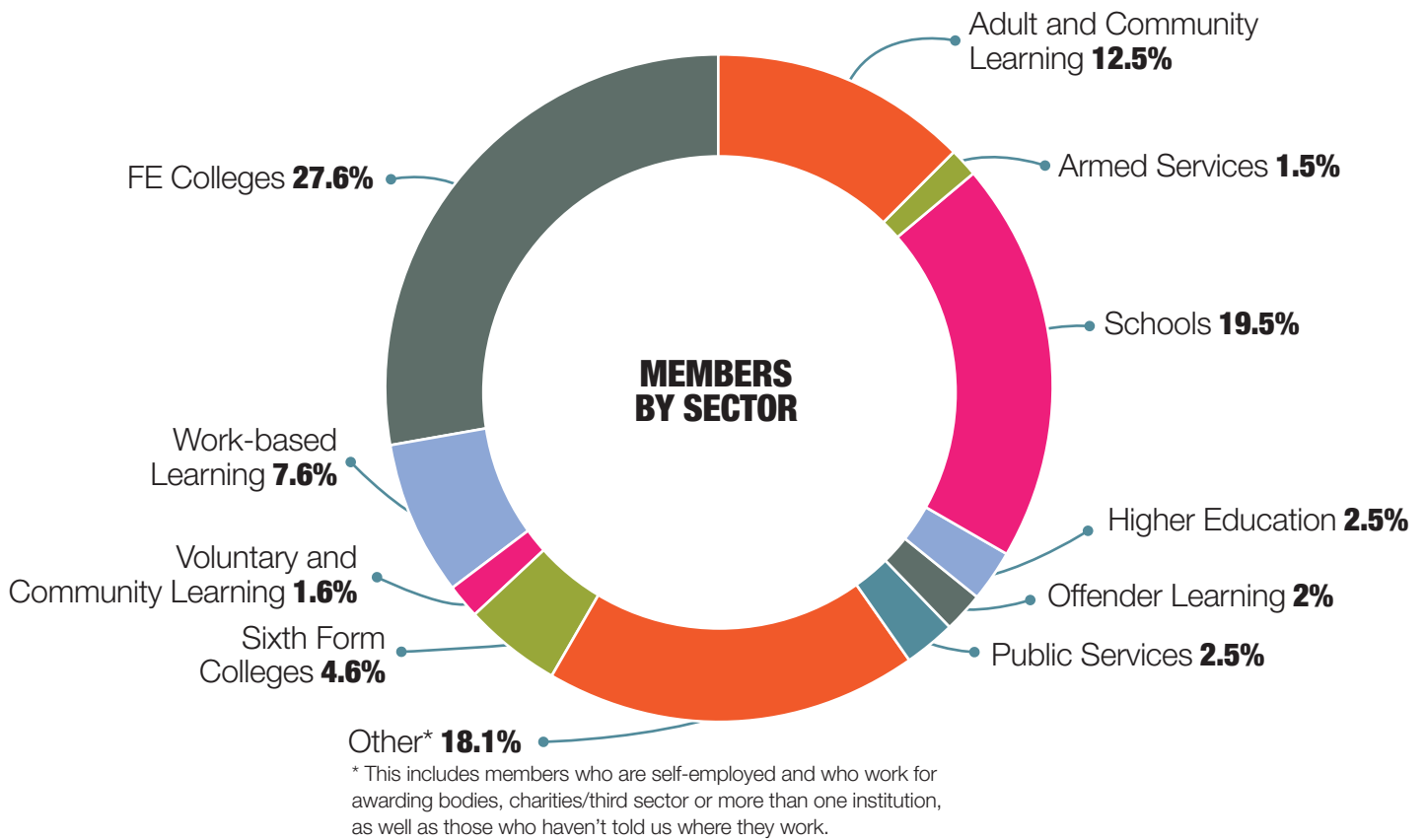


**Nafisah Graham-Brown, teacher**

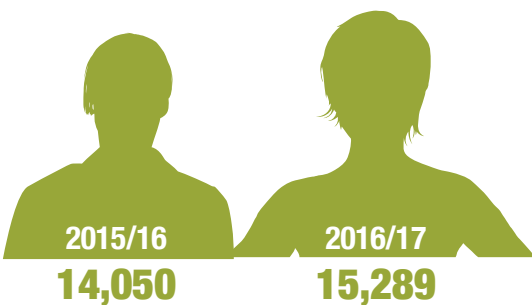
Doctors have their professional body and lawyers have theirs. Why not teachers? It makes me feel more of a legitimate professional. Working

together with a membership body always gives you strength in terms of negotiation, and access to training and CPD.

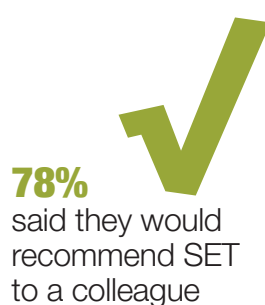
# Member data



## TOTAL NUMBER OF SET MEMBERS



## SET ANNUAL SURVEY



## ATTENDEES AT SET EVENTS \*



## QTLS IMPACT FIGURES



**88%** say undertaking QTLS has had a positive impact on their learners

**89%** say undertaking QTLS has had a positive impact on their practice

## MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES



**45,000** member calls and emails since June 2016

Overall monthly quality rating of **95%** for call agents