1. Brief description of Event (50-100 words):

IEEC is the “leading global three day forum for enterprise and entrepreneurship educators and practitioners” and is “highly regarded for its participatory style with a wide range of educator-led interactive parallel sessions and Pecha Kucha presentations as well as keynotes led by inspirational experts from across the world.” (from ieec.co.uk)

2. What were the benefits of attending and what did you gain from the experience in terms of transferable skills and knowledge.

I was ‘Track Chair’ for the ‘Supporting start-ups and established businesses’ track of Parallel Sessions, one of 6 tracks. This gave me the opportunity to attend a number of sessions I might not have chosen for myself. Combined with the keynotes from international speakers, this gave a broad and varied insight into enterprise education in a variety of contexts. I learned about: the importance of finding ways to support entrepreneurs to collaborate and focusing on soft skills; the opportunity to scan the environment for opportunities; a new approach to incubators for start-ups; and the benefits of engaging directly with SME’s to develop their skills.

3. What actions will you be taking as a result of attending or by making new networking contacts.

I have used insights, ideas and tools/techniques in my curricular and extra-curricular teaching. I was particularly struck by the insights into the entrepreneurial landscape in China and how great both their need and the size of the market is. When our new Asia Opportunities Manager starts later this year, I will pass on contact details of the speaker.

4. Can you share any additional resources produced in connection with the event (e.g. feedback from participants, training resources, website links, and additional materials).

The full programme, presentation slides and recordings of keynote speakers are available on the website. http://ieec.co.uk/

5. Tips/experience learned from the event
I was reminded of the importance of refreshing and enhancing my own knowledge and understanding, to enable me to keep my teaching current and ensure it meets the needs of our students.

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event

None I can think of.