

Distinguishing Communities of Practice from other activities

Group:	Community of Practice	Staff networks	Interest groups	Working groups
Purpose:	To unite staff working in similar domains and functions to develop and professionalise individuals and practices.	To develop connections between staff with shared experiences to get to know and support one another. Usually based on personal characteristics or broad work areas.	To develop connections between staff who are working in specific areas that cut across domains/functions. Usually based on specific areas of work.	To develop solutions to shared problems or work together on improving existing issues or practices.
Example:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Department Administrators' forum - InEDITA – the Induction, Engagement and Development Initiative for Teaching Administrators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Astrea network for professional services women - PACT – Parents and Carers Together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Communications And Marketing forum - The Bartlett communications group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Here East administration and operational management