Interview Questions – Demonstrator

Background knowledge

1. How long have you been a demonstrator in PAN labs? Were you a principal or an assistant demonstrator? Have you demonstrated in other physics subjects? If yes, which subjects?

2. Could you please tell me a bit about your physics background

   Answer should either be peer, physics Hons student, physics Phd student or physics PhD

3. Can you briefly tell me why you have taken on the role of PAN demonstrator? (money, experience, practical knowledge, enjoy teaching, add to cv) – Which is the most important reason?

4. Can you give me an example of a memorable experience as a demonstrator in PAN labs?

5. How did you learn to demonstrate in the PAN labs? What were your main sources of learning to be a lab demonstrator? In what way did the demonstrator orientation sessions help you?

6. Do you think it is important that PAN lab demonstrators have a strong physics background?

Attributes

1. What in your view are the most important qualities or characteristics a demonstrator should possess? Please explain why you think these are important qualities

2. What do you see as your strengths as a demonstrator or what do you bring to the role as a demonstrator?

3. What do you enjoy most/least about being a PAN demonstrator?

4. In what way do you think you could improve as a demonstrator?

View on (and teaching in) PAN labs

1. What do you see as the main aims of the PAN lab program? In your view, why is the lab program part of PAN?

2. Could you briefly describe a recent experiment that you supervised in the PAN lab. PAUSE What did you expect your students to get from that experiment?

3. How do students learn in PAN labs? How do they make sense of the tasks? Can you provide me with a specific example?

FOR PRINCIPALS AND NON-PEER ASSISTANT DEMONSTRATORS

4. THE PAN STUDENTS HAVE DIFFERENT PHYSICS BACKGROUNDS AND DIFFERENT CAREER PATHWAYS

   Are their ways you take this into account when demonstrating? If yes, can you explain how?

I would like to hear your views on students' learning experiences in PAN labs and your contribution as a demonstrator

<u>Interaction between students and demonstrators</u>

1. How do you see your role as demonstrator in helping students learn in the PAN lab?

   This question has opportunities for further exploration depending on response, for instance, if demonstrator says about setting the scene for students, unpacking that asking to give a specific example about how scene is set. Can also clarify what has just been said

2. Can you briefly explain how your role differs from that of the other demonstrator in the lab?

3. What is your teaching approach in supporting student learning in PAN labs? Can you describe to me what is the most important thing you, as a demonstrator, do to help students in their learning process?

   Explore this question in terms of (1) how do you help students learn? (2) how do you engage students

   - Can you describe to me in a few words how you explain to students the relevance of the lab work to the course they are doing?
   - Can you describe to me the steps you take in each lab class to make sure students have understood the experiment?

4. What do you do to enhance student engagement in PAN experiments? You can describe by giving me either a specific example or in general terms

5. How do you know your students are engaged in PAN labs?

6. What steps do you take to help students in their learning experience when they are not of the same discipline as yours? Only Principals

7. Can you give me an example of a situation in PAN labs that the students found challenging. In what ways did you address this challenge?

   Examples : didn't know the answer; did not know how to work equipment; did not understand basic steps needed to perform experiment

Views on changes to PAN labs

1. Can you tell me the kind of additional support you may need as a demonstrator to increase student engagement and enhance their learning experience in the labs
   Some students talked about the PAN lab manual and that can be modified to suit students' needs. What is your view?

2. If you think you require further preparation to perform your role as a PAN demonstrator effectively, what kind of preparation would this be? Do you have any suggestions?