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# LCC Technical 20% - A Time to Think

## Proposal:

Following in the footsteps of companies such as IBM, Apple and Google, September 18th 2014 marks the launch of the first LCC staff 20% project. LCC 20% - Time to Think aims to enable Technical staff to spend 20% of their contracted time, over a period up to five weeks, on a project that their job description doesn't cover.

The Time to Think project will give Technical staff at LCC the opportunity to spend time engaging in unusual projects that encourage experimentation in the creative field. These projects will sit outside the PRA process and present the opportunity to try something new or different, they will give staff the chance to develop technologies or working practices beyond the context of their everyday routine.

## Background:

Services such as Gmail, Google News and AdSense all come from Google's own 20% project, the rationale is simple. Give staff the opportunity to explore a project and develop an idea without the constraints of specific outcomes and measures of success. Embrace failure and risk taking, encourage staff to explore the environment around them.

Technical staff are not currently allowed research remission, this project would provide an opportunity for those "intrinsically interested" staff to explore an idea and experiment across the college within the guidelines of -

- Improving the student experience
- Enhancing work or creative practice
- Being aligned to the College operating objectives
- Introducing new skills or technology
- Building new communities of practice.

## Implementation:

Time to Think will be covered by a fund for hourly paid staff to ensure that the student experience is not negatively effected. The need for cover will be assessed on a case by case basis. We have budget to allow at least two projects a term. All successful applications will be agreed by the Head of Technical Resources and Technical Managers with outcomes being passed through the College Executive.

Final submission date for autumn term 2014 applications will be on October 13th 2014. Further information and the application form can be found at [lcc20percent.myblog.arts.ac.uk](http://lcc20percent.myblog.arts.ac.uk)

Jackson Jessop

Head of Technical Resources - 2014