



This is the May FACE (Forum for Access and Continuing Education) e-bulletin, offered to policy-makers, researchers, practitioners and others with an interest in access, widening participation and lifelong learning. This message is sent to those in the sector, members and non-members alike.

This FACE e-bulletin will be sent to you each month. If you would prefer not to receive it please contact me at carmel.dennison@ntlworld.com and your details will be removed immediately. If you have any comments about what might be added to this service to make it more useful, or if you would like me to add a colleague to the list, please let me know.

In this month's bulletin:

- FACE forthcoming IQER seminar in Derby 27 June
- FACE annual conference on 2-4 July
- Seminar in Scotland: The Future of Part-time Higher Education in Scotland 30th May 2007 University of Paisley
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- **FORTHCOMING FACE SEMINAR in partnership with the University of Derby
27 June 2007**

The Quality Assurance Agency has introduced IQER (Integrated Quality and Enhancement Review) as the method by which it will review the HEFCE-funded higher education provision that is delivered by further education colleges. This new method has been introduced on a pilot basis in the current academic year.

The purpose of this seminar/workshop is to enable participants to learn from the experience gained by the University of Derby and by two of its partner colleges which participated in the pilot phase.

There are only 15 places available and these will be booked up quickly. If you wish to attend please contact Carmel Dennison at carmel.dennison@ntlworld.com for seminar flyer and registration form.

- **FACE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 'Social Justice and Lifelong Learning: diversity, globalisation, transformation', 2-4 July 2007**

This is a major annual conference within the sector. Second call for papers: 31st May. For more information go to: <http://www.f-a-c-e.org.uk/conference2007.htm>

- **THE PART-TIME FORUM: Policy, Practice and Participation, 30 May 2007**

This provides an opportunity for professionals to meet to discuss issues of concern in the provision of part-time study at higher education. See information at: http://lifelonglearning.paisley.ac.uk/part-time_forum/ Or email Hazel Knox at: hazel.knox@paisley.ac.uk

- **FACE NETWORKING WITHIN THE SECTOR**

FACE members can join networks of researchers and practitioners around the UK and overseas with similar expertise and research interests.

Go to: <http://www.f-a-c-e.org.uk/networking.htm> If you would like to add your details please e-mail FACE webmaster Jim Tate on: James.Tate@uwe.ac.uk

- **FACE BOOK REVIEWS**

For recent book reviews by FACE members go to: <http://www.f-a-c-e.org.uk/reviews.htm>
Please note that this service is available to all at present but will soon be available only to FACE members. Please note that FACE members are invited to submit their reviews of relevant recently-published books to carmel.dennison@ntlworld.com

- **JOB VACANCIES IN WIDENING PARTICIPATION**

Edge Hill University, 'Research Officer' Closing date for application: 23 May 2007
Salary: £28,289 - £31,840 per annum (With effect from 1 August 2007)

Working with Professor Liz Thomas, the research officer will be instrumental in establishing a centre as an international leader, and in bidding for, conducting and publishing research. Knowledge of higher education policy and the field of widening participation together with a record of publications appropriate for entry to the 2008 RAE would be an advantage. Go to <http://jobs.edgehill.ac.uk/details/EH1766> for job details.

Sheffield Hallam University, The Widening Participation Policy Unit (WPPU)

'Widening Participation Research Assistant' Salary £14,041 to £19,263, Fixed-term until 31 July 2008, Closing Date: Friday 8th June 2007

The WP research assistant will carry out research, project-co-ordination activities and quantitative and qualitative analysis to support the co-ordination of the team's research projects.

'Widening Participation Support Officer' Salary, £15,727 to £18,703. Fixed-term until 31st July 2008, Closing Date: Friday 8th June 2007

The WP support officer will support the work of the team by carrying out a range of administrative duties and research / project-co-ordination activities; liaise with academic and administrative colleagues across the university in support of both core and project-related activities; and provide PA support for members of the team.

For more information on both posts go to: <http://www.shu.ac.uk/jobs/> (select 'view current vacancies') or email the team at: WPPU@shu.ac.uk

- **DISABILITY: A ROUGH GUIDE FOR WIDENING PARTICIPATION PRACTITIONERS** by Mike Wray and Ann-Marie Houghton

This guide is for staff involved in widening participation and all staff whose work brings them into contact either directly or indirectly with potential and current disabled learners, either on an individual basis or as part of a general cohort. A pdf copy of the guide is available from:

<http://aoa.ico3.com/resources/files/AoA%20DISABILITY%20BROCHURE%20March%2007.pdf>

- **WHAT'S IN THE NEWS**

'Post-92s put elite to shame in key areas', *THES*, 4 May 2007

New universities are more academically effective and efficient than their Russell Group neighbours in teaching and widening participation, according to the conclusions of a study by management researchers. http://www.thes.co.uk/search/story.aspx?story_id=2036460

'Driving demand' *The Guardian*, 15 May, 2007

There is no doubt that Lord Leitch's call for the Blairite introduction of choice and contestability into public services has led opponents to argue that his recommendations must be a bad thing. Such trite dismissal of the Leitch blueprint does nothing to help the interests of young people, adult learners and employers. As independent vocational learning providers, we understand the implications of moving to a demand-led system. Our view at the Association of Learning Providers, is that the challenges that come as part of the reform package are surmountable and we are urging ministers and the Learning and Skills Council to follow Leitch's direction as far and as fast as possible. <http://education.guardian.co.uk/egweekly/story/0,,2079235,00.html>

'A moving experience', *The Guardian*, 1 May 2007

Half of all Traveller children drop out of school. One woman who did just that now aims to change things. <http://education.guardian.co.uk/egweekly/story/0,,2068775,00.html>

'The key to any qualification is that it adds to the value of a student's life', *The Independent*, 10 May 2007

Foundation degrees, as well as being qualifications in their own right, provide a track to the third year of an honours degree. But they are just one platform on a busy station - there are many other routes leading to higher education. <http://education.independent.co.uk/higher/article2525621.ece>

MEMBERSHIP OF FACE

For non-members, go to: <http://www.f-a-c-e.org.uk/members.htm> to see the benefits of membership.