



South West Learning & Skills Research Network Annual Conference 2010

“A Road Less Travelled” Research in the Lifelong Learning Sector

Thursday 8 July 2010
(10.00 am - 3.30 pm)

at

Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre, Nr Totnes TQ11 0EG

held in partnership with the South West Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training (SWCETT) & University of Plymouth Higher Education Learning Partnership Centre for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (HELP CETL)

Keynote Speaker

Professor Gert Biesta

Director of Research at The Stirling Institute of Education

who will lead the day with a session entitled

“Research, practice and wisdom”

The South West Learning and Skills Research Network (LSRN) aims to support research by and for practitioners in the learning and skills sector. It provides an opportunity for researchers and those interested in research to share ideas, develop contacts, and set up collaborations. It is open to people regardless of their context, and membership includes independent consultants, researchers from private training providers, colleges, universities and government agencies. The Network covers the whole of the South West Region of England and includes the West Country Learning and Skills Research Network.

Overview

Research has long been viewed as the occupation of scholars inhabiting the ivory towers of the nation's elite universities. However, this traditional conception has been increasingly challenged since the emergence of the scholarship of teaching and learning, advocated by writers such as Boyer (1990) and Healey (2000). The scholarship of teaching and learning has built on the work of Stenhouse (1975), in making the practice of teachers' researching their practice legitimate. The growing expectation of practitioners to undertake continuing professional development has provided opportunities for them to act as researchers. Becoming practitioner-researchers has enabled many teachers to become forerunners in innovative models of delivery and responding to learners needs.

Practitioner-researchers undertake their work in a very different context to traditional scholars. Frequently those who are actively researching their practice are afforded limited reward or recognition for their efforts. Despite this, research can provide practitioners with a "neutral territory" to escape the everyday pressures of teaching, supporting students and course administration. Research can offer practitioners space to take risks, ask questions and challenge assumptions.

This year's conference will once again showcase the ongoing or completed research that practitioner-researchers have carried out to develop their own knowledge and/or practice and give colleagues the opportunity to share in their innovative approaches.

Aims of the Conference

- To participate in our Regional Community of Research Practice
- To network with others with a shared interest in research
- To discover and discuss results arising from South West research activities

Who should attend?

Policy makers, managers, teachers and trainee teachers interested in research and inquiry into further education and lifelong learning from FE colleges, adult and community learning, work-based learning and voluntary organisations.

Presentations & Workshops

During the morning colleagues from across the region will lead a series of research based presentation sessions based on the theme of this year's conference.

During the afternoon we will be offering delegates the opportunity to attend one of the following *Research in Context "How to"* workshop sessions:

- 1) "Phrasing Research Questions - Asking the Right Questions" - led by Gert Biesta
- 2) "Considering Existing Research/Literature" led by Ann-Marie Bathmaker (UWE, Bristol)
- 3) "Sharing Your Research with Others" led by Becky Turner (HELP CETL)
- 4) "Working together - supporting professional and curriculum development through co-operative inquiry" led by Denise Summers (University of Plymouth) & Johanna Wright (Somerset College)

Further details about all these sessions can be found on the [Learning South West website](#).

Exhibition Opportunities

If you are interested in having a stand at this event, please contact Elizabeth Yard on (01823) 365440 or events@learning-southwest.org.uk for more details.

Register online today at

<http://www.learning-southwest.org.uk/event-booking-form>

Large print copies of this flyer are available on request. Please ring (01823) 365440



Bishops Hull House, Bishops Hull, Taunton TA1 5EP
Tel: (01823) 335491 Fax: (01823) 323388
website: www.learning-southwest.org.uk

Registration Form (Please use BLOCK CAPITALS)

Delegate Details

08/07/10

Forename

Surname Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Position

Organisation

Address for Correspondence

.....

..... Postcode

Tel Mob

e-mail

Dietary Requirements *(please ✓)*

I will require a Vegetarian Vegan meal.

Any Other Special Requirements (special diet, access, hearing loop)

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Signed Date

Note: Please tick here if you do not wish to receive further information from Learning South West.

Data Protection: The information provided on this form will only be used for the purposes stated above. Learning South West may, from time to time, analyse the data provided for its own use and will not disclose any personal information to third parties.

Delegate Fees

£50.00 per person (for student teachers & presenters)

£80.00 per person (for all other attendees)

which includes refreshments & lunch.

Learning South West reserves the right to pass on any costs incurred by **cancellation or non-arrival after registration**.

Confirmation (plus location map, etc.) will be e-mailed to participants prior to the day of the event.

Payment

Learning South West is a small business within the definition of the Late Payment of Commercial Debts Act 1998 and therefore non-payment of an invoice 30 days after an event will incur additional charges; you might prefer to submit payment with this form.

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I enclose a cheque for £50.00 / £80.00 made payable to Learning South West.

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Tel: (01823) 365440/335491 Fax: (01823) 323388

e-mail: events@learning-southwest.org.uk

or book online at: www.learning-southwest.org.uk

BY: FRIDAY 25 JUNE 2010

Whilst it is helpful to have applications by the return date stated, if you have missed the date, please telephone us, we may be able to accommodate you.

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