

24 March 2010

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They have their exits and their entrances...

From the 1st April !!!!.....The Standards Council will have a new home as we relocate to Learning and Teaching Scotland in Glasgow. This is part of the relocation of Learning Connections out of Scottish Government to LTS. The team is looking forward to the opportunities presented by developing a distinctive role in Learning and Teaching Scotland. The initial discussions have been very positive and supportive.

We will be in contact with all friends and stakeholders very soon after our move with updated contact details - for our short term details, see the end of this bulletin.

We are also pleased for our colleague Karen Geekie who starts a new role in Scottish Government on 1st April - Karen has contributed so much to the establishment of the 'Council that her shoes will be difficult to fill - so we wish her the very best in her new role - and, recruiting staff to our posts, some held pending this move, will be an early priority for us....

Congratulations to all of the winners at the YouthLink awards - a fine occasion in its own right but importantly highlighting the often under valued contribution of youth work to Scotland's citizens and wider society.... c'mon people who sit in warm offices and dont get out enough....get your head around all of whats happening and not just the headline grabbing stuff....

Enjoy this bulletin and keep in touch.....

Rory



Friends, Romans, Countrymen...



The second meeting of the full Standards Council was held on the 1st March. Our Chair, Duncan Simpson, opened proceedings with a rallying cry to members, praising their excellent attendance at meetings throughout the year and noting with pleasure that they were keen to carry on – because while we have a lot done, we have a lot still to do!

Duncan offered particular thanks to the Chairs of our committees – Garry Cameron, Gillian Lithgow and Richard Hardie – who will be marshalling the work on the Guidelines, the CPD Strategy, the Code of Ethics and more over the coming year.

He ended by considering the big picture and asking some 'blue sky' questions:

How can we raise our profile – and our voice – on behalf of our sector?
How can we build networks and influence within and outwith our sector?
Have we really thought about how the Curriculum for Excellence impacts on us?

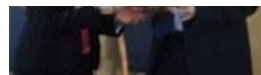
To be, or not to be

The first Chair up was Garry Cameron of the Approval Committee. He brought colleagues up-to-date (and left them worn out!) with a comprehensive list of the work completed and work in progress:

The approval of programmes
The development of the new guidelines
Establishing a mid-term review procedure



Finding digitalised solutions for communications
Embedding the refreshed competences in programmes
Joint approval of courses across the UK
Considering Curriculum for Excellence and how to embed it in programmes
Training for committee members



Garry finished by presenting two colleagues with Approval Certificates for programmes they deliver – Aileen Ackland accepted on behalf of the TQAL consortium and Lyn Tett (pictured here with Garry) on behalf of the University of Edinburgh.

What's in a name?



Hot on Garry's heels was Gillian Lithgow, Chair of the CPD Committee, who spent a significant part of the year addressing the ever thorny issue of language and trying valiantly to avoid acronyms - watch this space for the renaming of the committee!

Gillian discussed the basis for developing the CPD framework: a desire to challenge the 'norm' and not go for an off the shelf model, instead creating one that reflected the nature, approach and purpose of our sector being dynamic, inclusive and recognising the value in learning for all.

Gillian and the committee hope the Strategy will be finalised by April; development of the skeleton framework is underway and will run to March 2011. The CPD committee will act as a steering group for this process. Over the same period, they will also be holding events to begin a national debate on Supported Induction Models for CLD.

O brave new world

Finally Richard Hardie, Chair of the Registration Committee, outlined the progress made on the voluntary model, the principles underpinning it and the next steps.

Through the voluntary model, the committee want to build a shared understanding of CLD as a profession and establish agreed standards and ethical principles for registered workers. They want to create a strong sense of identity and a voice for the sector, which will give us confidence and parity of esteem with others, as well as improved management and delivery of services

The voluntary model of registration will have core criteria for all, plus specific criteria for each category. Registration will be open to all who work to the competences, commit to the Code of Ethics and commit to continuing CPD.

The committee is currently debating the number of registration categories and what they will be based on - there will be a mixture of qualifications and experience.



This is the short and the long of it



We were extremely lucky to secure Professor Gordon Kirk to talk to us on the subject of Professionalism and Professional Ethics. He offered an overview and analysis in three parts: the established view, the threats to professionalism and a 'reinterpretation' of professionalism. His presentation is available on our website [here](#).

Professor Kirk, a former Dean of the Faculty of Education and Vice-Principal at The University of Edinburgh, has been closely involved in the development of teacher education for nearly 30 years, most recently in the development of the Standard for Chartered Teacher in Scotland. He has contributed in excess of 120 articles to

professional and academic journals and is the author of several books. He is a member of the [Scottish Forum for Professional Ethics](#).

Be great in act, as you have been in thought

The afternoon started with our very own Professor Howard Sercombe, member of the Registration Committee, introducing the Ethics debate. He first set out the context in which the draft Code has been developed and then summarised the discussions to date from committee.

Professor Sercombe noted that while our values and principles are embedded in our conversations and documents, and the universal values of justice, inclusion and empowerment, there is still a gap which can be filled by a Code of Ethics: the problem with using values alone is that there is no way to say no, and we must have a way to say that. As individuals and as a profession, we can be subject to the corruption of our craft, so we need the process of reflection which helps keep us committed to our values and principles.



Reflecting on these words, and the draft Code (now available online), members

broke off into groups and spent the rest of the day engaged in constructive and stimulating debate.

Listen to many, speak to a few



[The online Ethics consultation is now live.](#)

Our Ethics consultations are hitting the road this week in Stirling and Dundee, with Edinburgh also to come before the Bank Holiday weekend.

Places are going very quickly but it is still worth giving Kirsty a call on 0300 244 1373 or dropping her a line at contact@cdstandardscouncil.org.uk to see if we can squeeze you in!

Why, then the world's mine oyster

The YouthLink Awards went off with a bang on the 18th March, with glad rags donned and glasses charged to the winners.

The 'Council team were delighted to break bread with our category winner, **Margaret Walker from Buckstone Youth Club** (pictured here with Duncan Simpson, Chair of the Council, and Bruce Crawford, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs - photo courtesy of Sandy Young Photography), as well as last year's winner Janice Hendry.



The overall winner and Peer Educator of the Year, Dale Martin of Larkhall Academy, was the unanimous choice of the judges and a very popular choice with the gathered company. We offer him our heartfelt congratulations. See the full list of winners on the [YouthLink site](#).

The earth has music for those who listen



Last year, hundreds of millions of people took part in the third Earth Hour. Over 4000 cities in 88 countries officially switched off to pledge their support for the planet, making Earth Hour 2009 the world's largest global climate change initiative. Now you have the chance to make Earth Hour 2010 even bigger!

So have your candles at the ready for the 27th March – a great excuse for a little romance – and in the meantime sign up and be counted [here](#).

And thereby hangs a tale

The GTCS (General Teaching Council Scotland) is being given an expanded role; new measures are being put in place to establish the council as a self-regulating professional body.

Following a consultation last year, the Scottish Government has published an analysis of the findings and set out the way ahead for the GTCS. They will be taking control of the full set of Standards that decide teacher competencies and they will also have more responsibility for Initial Teacher Education provision.

Given the common ground of Curriculum for Excellence, we will follow with interest the changes and challenges for our colleagues in the traditional education sector.



Now is the winter of our discontent



The nation could be confronting a "lost generation" of volunteers, according to Volunteer Development Scotland.

The organisation, which is Scotland's centre for excellence in volunteering, surveyed 2,000 young people aged between 11 and 25 at the end of 2009. The figures show that the proportion of 17 to 25-year-olds who said they recognised a link between volunteering and being a good citizen had fallen from 12 per

cent in 2007 to 9 per cent last year.

All the world's a stage

The [DFID Community Linking Programme](#) aims to increase understanding of global development issues, and offers funding and support to community groups in the UK that have a link with a community group in a developing country.

The programme can help you strengthen connections between your community and others, and explore how global issues have a local impact. You can access online support, advice and ideas, newsletters and resources, workshops and funding.

So if your community group is in touch with a community group in a developing country, and you're interested in working together to learn more about global development issues, then Global Community Links could be for you.

For further information write to:

Global Community Links
British Council
Bridgewater House
58 Whitworth Street
Manchester
M1 6BB

T: 0161 957 7790

Even good you do so much for charity

The Beacon Prize honours philanthropy by an individual or couple. Nominees are people who have done something exceptional to make people's lives better. They must:

- be an individual or a couple.
- live or work in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man.
- have made an exceptional contribution in money, leadership, creative ideas, skills and time to a charitable or social cause
- have taken a problem solving approach that is capable of being repeated
- have shown entrepreneurial spirit.
- have made their contribution voluntarily - or if they are in paid employment, their contribution must have gone beyond that expected from someone in that role

There are seven prize categories:

- Community builder
- Leadership
- New initiatives
- Young philanthropist / activist
- Effective giving
- Family business philanthropist
- Philanthropy advocate

Nominations can be made by individuals or charities, organisations and companies and are open until 16 April 2010 - more information [here](#).



Love sought is good, but given unsought is better

Nominations for the fourth Scottish Charity Awards are now open. The awards recognise excellence across the entire voluntary sector in Scotland. Previous winners have included national charities, such as RNIB Scotland, and local community groups, such as the West Aness Residents Association.

Nominations can be made in five categories: Community Action, Campaign of the Year, the Partnership Award, Charity Champion, and Charity of the Year.

The awards ceremony takes place on the 10th June 2010, deadline for nominations is the 9th April.



You can download and fill in the application form [here](#).

Completed forms should be emailed to awards@scvo.org.uk or five copies can be sent to Scottish Charity Awards 2010, SCVO, Mansfield Traquair Centre, 15 Mansfield Place, Edinburgh. EH3 6BB.

Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow



And finally – as mentioned at the start – the Council will be moving to a new home on the 1st April. The best way to contact us during our transition is by email:

contact@cldstandardscouncil.org.uk

You can also contact us by post at:

The Optima, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DU

Or, as ever, via the [website](#)