Welcome to the first Newsletter from the Development Education Research Centre!

Welcome to the first edition of Development Education Update, the Development Education Research Centre Newsletter. This newsletter is one of a number of new initiatives the Research Centre will be producing to promote and share research taking place on development education and related themes in the UK and elsewhere in the world.

RESEARCH CENTRE STRATEGY FOR 2009-2012

Since the Centre was launched in November 2006, it has introduced the first ever academic journal on development education, a new masters course specifically focussing on development education, developed a doctoral level research community and produced a range of research publications and articles on areas such as global skills, global dimension in secondary education, young people as global citizens, global engineer and global perspectives in higher education.

Through its partnerships with the London International Development Centre, DERC provides a reference point, expertise and place for joint research and projects with development related initiatives from nearby colleges who are engaged in activities on international development.

With renewed funding from DFID and a range of new consultancy and research projects, the Centre is pleased to launch the next phase of its programme.

The aims of the next three years for the Centre are as follows:

- Continue to act as the knowledge hub for research in development education
- Develop a network of researchers, covering both academics and students around the world who can share their experiences and research
- Improve the quality of development education practice through a range of professional development courses and expansion of the MA in Development Education and provide consultancy and advice to NGOs, professional bodies and local authorities.
- Produce evidence through a range of publications of the impact of development education as a contribution to both building understanding of development and the quality of learning within UK education systems.
- Act as a forum for debate and dialogue through a range of events in partnership with other academic institutions in the UK and elsewhere in the world

The main research themes will be

- Young People’s Engagement in International Development
- The Global Dimension in Formal Education
- The Policy and Practices of Development Education
- Students as Global Citizens
- Global Learning for Global Colleges
- Global Dimension to Initial Teacher Education

In addition to this termly update of research, an annual publication that summaries current and planned research will be produced, a regular programme of seminars related to current national and international debates, events related to current research projects and an annual research conference.

Support for aspects of these research themes has also been provided by CAFOD.

A key part of the Centre’s work for the next three years will be to provide ongoing advice and evidence to DFID on development education, particularly in terms of evidence of the impact of current practice.

It will also continue to provide consultancy support to NGOs and other bodies seeking advice with evaluation, research programmes and promotion of their programmes.
DEVELOPMENT AWARENESS PROJECTS

The Research Centre has recently secured funding from DFID’s Development Awareness Fund for three major projects.

STUDENTS AS GLOBAL CITIZENS

A new research partnership between the Development Education Research Centre (Institute of Education, University of London), the Institute for Global Health (University College, London), the Royal Veterinary College, the School of Pharmacy (University of London), and the London International Development Centre, the Development Education Research Centre at the Institute of Education, University of London has been established to develop and evaluate methods to embed learning about global and development issues within degree courses on pharmacy, veterinary science, and human health.

The project builds on a number of existing initiatives within all three of the colleges, including the work of the Institute for Global Health and the involvement of both the RVC and SoP in the work of the London International Development Centre. Activities will include engagement with students and staff to assess existing understandings of global and development issues, and to evaluate learning which results from new teaching and learning opportunities provided via the project. Additional support in the development of curriculum materials and direct delivery of activities will be provided by Skillshare International, a UK charity with experience and resources in global health education. The core aims of the project are to both support and extend the existing work of the colleges, and to research the links between discussions of ‘global citizenship’ and learning about global and development issues within higher education.

The first major activity of the project will be a seminar on 24 November 2009 on ‘Climate Change and Global Citizenship: The contribution of human health, pharmacy and veterinary science’. Speakers from each of the colleges involved in the project will discuss the ways in which climate change issues, as well as wider global and development issues, can be successfully integrated into teaching and learning programmes for their respective fields. Confirmed speakers are listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

The seminar will be held from 5pm to 6.30pm in the upper meeting room at the London International Development Centre, 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PD. Please note that places are limited to 35. Contact Guy Benton (g.benton@ioe.ac.uk) to book a place.

Contact person for this project is Dr. Nicole Blum: n.blum@ioe.ac.uk

GLOBAL LEARNING FOR GLOBAL COLLEGES

Learning about global and development issues is becoming an increasingly important feature of the activities of a number of further education colleges in England. Recognising this interest and building on work the Research Centre has been doing with Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS), this three year project aims to identify ways in which learning about global and development issues can be an important part of the curriculum for students at further education colleges. The project is being developed in partnership with 5 colleges: City of Bristol, Collyers in Surrey, North East London, City and Islington and Regents College in Leicester.

The project will look particularly at the opportunities created by the introduction of the new diplomas but will also look at the role of more vocational programmes and the impact partnerships that Colleges have with similar institutions elsewhere in the world.

As well as helping the Colleges develop their curriculum in the global and development areas, the project will include opportunities for students within and between the institutions to share their views in these areas and develop appropriate resources and professional development courses for staff.

Initial activities for the project including an audit of existing provision within the five colleges and presentations on initial findings to a series of events being planned by LSIS and Association of Colleges on the global and international dimension.

At the Institute of Education the project has the support and involvement of Professors Ken Spours and Ann Hodgson and is being led by Dr. Clare Bentall, e.mail: c.bentall@ioe.ac.uk

GLOBAL DIMENSION TO INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

The Institute of Education has a very strong teacher training programme covering primary, most secondary subjects and post-compulsory. Learning about global and development issues has been a feature of some of the subject based courses but the emphasis has been on one-off sessions often with external inputs.

This project aims to encourage movement from this approach and support those to date not overtly engaged in the global dimension to embed learning about development and global issues as an integral component of all initial teacher education courses at the Institute.

In addition to this, the project aims to identify the learning gained from the students on the global dimension and how they are interpreting this learning within the classroom.

The Project aims to work closely with the UK Initial Teacher Education Network on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, co-ordinated by London South Bank University (www.lsbu.ac.uk)

Initial activities for the project include an audit of existing provision and the organisation of a series of staff development workshops and seminars on the global dimension.

The project has been led by Dr. John Morgan, Reader in Geography at IOE, e.mail: j.morgan@ioe.ac.uk
CURRENT CONSULTANCY PROJECTS AND OTHER NEWS

GLOBAL DIMENSION TO ENGINEERING EDUCATION

The Centre is advising Engineers Against Poverty with their new DFID funded project on Global Dimension to Engineering Education. This project is run in partnership with Engineering Subject Centre of the Higher Education Academy, Engineering Council and the Engineering Professors Council. Further details on www.engineersagainstpoverty.org and www.engsc.ac.uk

GLOBAL DIMENSION TO FORMAL EDUCATION

Dr. Karen Edge and Dr Douglas Bourn have recently completed a research project on Global Dimension to Secondary Education for DCSF based on case studies with 10 schools. Details about how and where to access the report will be made available on DERC web pages of www.ioe.ac.uk

GLOBALISATION AND FURTHER EDUCATION

The Research Centre is currently working with Learning and Skills Improvement Service on identifying case studies within a range further education colleges and other training providers on how they making reference to globalisation within their courses and activities. Further information about this project form d.bourn@ioe.ac.uk or j.clough@lsis.org.uk

RETURNED VOLUNTEERS AND DEVELOPMENT AWARENESS

Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) commissioned the Centre to undertake a longitudinal study of how returned volunteers (RVS) are taking forward their learning and interest in development issues through their work, leisure activities and lifestyle. The Centre team are interviewing 23 returned volunteers between July 2009 and March 2010 at regular interviews. It is envisaged that the outcomes of this research will be made available late 2010.

FROM EVALUATION TO RESEARCH

The Centre was closely involved in a major academic conference held at the National University of Ireland in Galway on the 2-3 October 2009 on the theme of moving from evaluation to research. Speakers included Helmuth Hartmeyer from Austria, Vanessa Andreotti from New Zealand, Bill Scott from Bath University, Claudia Bergmüller from University of Erlangen-Nurnberg and and Catherine A. Odora Hoppers from South Africa.

Participants also came from USA and a range of European countries.

The key issues to emerge from this conference were:
- Recognition of the need to encourage debate between those who perceive evaluation through a development lens and those who see it through an educational lens.
- A need to understand and help those policy-making bodies who resource development education and development awareness through sharing existing evaluation reports and outcomes of research.
- There is still too much emphasis on looking for outcomes related to pre-determined results.
- A need to understand different approaches towards evaluation in relation to different cultural/educational traditions – the German approach is very different from the UK, for example.

Most of the papers or presentations from the conference are available on: http://www.nuigalway.ie/dem/conf_criticaldeved.html

ERASMUS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE WORKING WITH THE DERC

Martina Ropkova is studying MA in International Development Studies at Palacky University, Olomouc, which is the first complete Development Studies Program in the Czech Republic and in the Central European Region. Martina also works for ARPOK (Agency for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid of the Olomouc Region) where she teaches global education at elementary and high schools in the Olomouc region. She also participates in the creation of teaching materials and manuals for elementary and high school teachers which address such issues as globalization, development aid and multiculturalism.
MA IN DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

The Masters Course in Development Education is now in its second year at the Institute of Education. It is mainly an on-line course. The 2 core modules on Principles and Practices of Development Education and Development Education in the Era of Globalisation and one of the optional modules, North-South Educational Partnerships are only available as on-line modules. Another optional module Training for Development Education includes as well as on-line activities, two face to face sessions.

The course is particularly aimed at educational practitioners be they working in NGOs, in schools, community organisations or colleges.

There are 2 dates for the MA: January 2010 or October 2010.

For further information about the MA go to: http://www.ioe.ac.uk/study/masters/PMM9_DED9IM.html or contact d.bourn@ioe.ac.uk

PUBLICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND GLOBAL LEARNING

Issue 4 of the Journal will be published in December 2009 and contains articles on review of development education in Norway and reflections on Maori education in New Zealand for discourses around global citizenship.

Subscriptions to the journal are available from www.trentham-books.co.uk or by email: info@trentham-books.co.uk

STUDYING PGCE GEOGRAPHY AT M LEVEL

Nicole Blum, Douglas Bourn and Karen Edge – Making Sense of The Global Dimension in: Studying PGCE Geography at M level edited by Clare Brooks – Published by Routledge

INTERNATIONALISATION AND THE STUDENT VOICE

Douglas Bourn – Students as Global Citizens in Internationalisation and the Student Voice, edited by Elspeth Jones, Routledge

SEMINARS

DERC Seminar: Monday 9th November, 5-6.30pm
‘Pedagogies of Development Education’ with Dr. Douglas Bourn at LIDC, 36 Gordon Square

DERC Seminar: Tuesday 24th November, 5-6.30pm
‘Climate Change and Global Citizenship: The contribution of human health, pharmacy and veterinary science’ with Professor Joe Brownlie, Royal Veterinary College; Professor Anthony Costello, Institute for Global Health, UCL and Professor David Taylor, School of Pharmacy at LIDC, 36 Gordon Square

DERC Seminar: Tuesday 8th December, 2-4pm
‘Engagement with the UK Global Justice Movement: How, What and Why?’ with James Trewby at LIDC, 36 Gordon Square