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**HIGHER
EDUCATION
CHESHIRE**

Fourth Annual Conference Programme

Presented by the HE Cheshire Consortium Teaching & Learning/CPD Group

Chair: Kaye Thomas - AoC Scholarship Project Development Manager

“Enhancing the student experience through scholarship”

Wednesday 28th June (10.00am – 4.15pm)

Warrington Collegiate – Business School

10.00-10.30	Registration and Refreshments	
10.30-10.35	Welcome from our host – Warrington Collegiate	Heather Sharrock <i>Head of Faculty: HE, Access, Professional, TU & Accountancy Warrington Collegiate</i>
10.35-10.45	The Scholarship Project	Kaye Thomas AoC Scholarship Project Development Manager HE Cheshire Consortium of Colleges <i>(Lead College- Macclesfield College)</i>
10.45-11.30	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Promoting a Higher Education Ethos by Employing Boyer’s Model of Scholarly Activity	Dr Chris Dows
	<p>College-Based Higher Education (CBHE) has long been perceived as the 'poor relation' to University and HEI provision. This perception inevitably affects the staff who work tirelessly to uphold academic standards in FE colleges. It is an irony that their efforts to provide the best HE experience to their students often entails highly innovative, industry-based and technical expertise at least equal to that found in University sector teaching. With little or no time to undertake research, the enormous amount of high quality scholarly activity that goes on remains ignored - but what if there was a way to capture and celebrate this work? This address will focus on embracing Boyer's Model of Scholarly Activity to improve perceptions of CBHE teaching and learning, helping to create a Higher Education ethos along the way.</p> <p><i>Having taught both FE and HE programmes for over twenty years, Dr Chris Dows has considerable experience of the issues connected with the design, development, implementation and management of higher education programmes within a further education setting. Working as an educational consultant specialising in CBHE, he is currently engaged in the HEFCE-funded AoC Scholarship Project. As a Senior Fellow of the HEA, he understands the importance of innovation and creative thinking in the structuring of courses and approach to teaching, and is passionate about creating a 'level playing field' for all Higher Education practitioners. When he's not involved with all of that, he spends his time writing historical novels, articles for the Star Trek Magazine and audio dramas for Games Workshop's Black Library Press!</i></p>	

11.30-11.40	Brief Comfort Break	
11.40-12.00	Pasts and Presents: Conversations with Old Friends	Stephen Clarke <i>University of Chester Mid-Cheshire College</i>
	<p>The presentation will explore the interconnectivity between professional engagement and teaching in Higher Education. The starting points for this discussion are the graduate and postgraduate courses that underpin my work – these form my research base. As a Fine Art practitioner the obvious outcome of these courses has been public exhibitions of artwork; exhibitions are a collaborative endeavour with curators and organisations. I have extended this collaborative approach to work alongside the artists and lecturers that were my mentors and are my colleagues, but also others who I meet at events and conferences. Alongside exhibiting, writing and public talks, I have also become involved with independent publishers that distribute work and have become a platform for further discourse.</p>	
12.05– 12.35	Person Centred Counselling for Clients with Asperger’s Syndrome	Lisa Cromer <i>Studying BSc Person-Centred Counselling at South Cheshire College (Validated by the University of Derby)</i>
	<p>I will be disseminating a study of Asperger’s Syndrome (AS) related to counselling. This will explore the neurological differences in autistic brains and some of the stigma attached to autism. My study presents data to refute some of the inaccurate reporting into the causation of AS.</p> <p>My investigations reveal AS is widely undiagnosed and unsupported in society especially in females, leading to higher than average poor mental health in this area. I will explore how future Person-Centred Counsellors can help people with AS more effectively, what approaches are likely to help and what issues we as counsellors might come across; including confusing body language, poor eye contact and poor theory of mind. This will adversely affect our ‘active listening’ skills. We will need to learn to listen differently for AS clients.</p> <p>Throughout, I will relate back to myself as a person with AS, highlighting how it has affected my life.</p>	
12.35-1.15	Lunch	

Following lunch there are a series of break-out sessions:

PLEASE ATTEND ONE SESSION: A, B, C or D

(From 1.20pm – 2.45pm)



After the brief afternoon break PLEASE THEN ATTEND ONE SESSION: E, F or G

(From 3.10pm – 4.05pm)

Please choose one session: (A, B, C or D) to attend after lunch

Session A – Main Conference Room GG08/GG10		
1.20-1.45	Fusion	Natasha Wyatt, Freya Dunning, Bethany Berry, Beth Shatwell, Emily Paton, with Sara Ferguson (Lecturer in Performing Arts) <i>Studying HNC/D Performing Arts – Dance Pathway</i> <i>Mid-Cheshire College</i>
<p>The HNC/D Performing Arts students will disseminate elements of a range of projects undertaken this year by performing extracts which they have researched and choreographed themselves. We hope you enjoy this fusion of scholarly practical work demonstrating a range of dance skills in the context of research into commercial dance and a spread of genres to include jazz, variety and panto. The students disseminated their original work to large audiences in the ‘Choreography Show’ and the ‘End of Year Show’ recently.</p>		
1.50-2.15	Developing College HE Students as Research Scholars	Dr Raja Toqeer, Dr Steve Alison, Nic Burton (Lecturers in Engineering) <i>Macclesfield College</i>
<p>Utilising the concept of inquiry-based learning (Healey, 2005), students engage with research and/or design-based projects and are given the opportunity to present their findings in the formal academic forum of a conference. It is the intention of this project to research the development of student skill bases and pedagogic progress through their engagement with a structured and formalised presentation of their research.</p> <p>It is hoped that the findings will indicate the students are able to demonstrate growth in their transferrable skill set and a matured academic confidence. This is measured through responses to questionnaires and the peer review process.</p>		
2.20-2.45	An Exploration of the Range of Support Currently Available to Young People with Mental Health Issues and its Efficacy	Spencer Hickson <i>Studying BSc Person-Centred Counselling</i> <i>South Cheshire College</i> <i>(Validated by the University of Derby)</i>
<p>This investigation has sought to reveal figures regarding the number of young people with mental health issues and to explore the range of treatments currently available and their effectiveness for this group of the population. The study explores what plans are in place for further support for the future for young people’s mental health provision and how it is to be funded.</p>		

Session B – Room GG06

1.20-1.45

The Effects of Optimisation of Daily Protein Intake Combined with Resistance Training on Impairments in Muscle Function in Elderly Men

**Craig Atherton
(Lecturer in Sport & Exercise Science)**

Warrington Collegiate

In the preceding century, there has been a continued increase in life expectancy; consequently the next major challenge for gerontologists is to investigate methods of enhancing overall quality of life. One problem however, that is of major significance to the elderly, is an age-related loss of muscle mass and function (or sarcopenia) which often has debilitating effects in the older population.

The aim of this research is to determine the effects of a resistance training programme combined with post exercise whey protein supplementation on skeletal muscle function to aid in a better quality of life.

1.50-2.15

Strawberry Plants Under Red and Blue LED's

Dennis Bradley

Studying HND Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Macclesfield College

LED technology is one of the biggest advancements in the Horticultural Industry for decades. However, the industry is still reluctant to change from traditional Metal Halide Lighting because of outdated views of cost and reliability of LED technology.

In a UK winter, strawberries are currently too expensive to produce in the UK due the lighting and heating costs, therefore this study was performed to analyse the effectiveness at growing strawberry plants under LED lighting in comparison to traditional lighting with some interesting results.

2.20-2.45

**Circling the Squares:
Developing a Framework for Observations of HE in FE**

**Dr Jennifer Wells
(Lecturer in Education)**

South Cheshire College

The issues surrounding the observation framework for HE in FE are highly contentious. As lecturers, it has often been the case that we feel 'squeezed' into a criteria which is more in keeping with Ofsted than the demands of study at HE. This has become increasingly problematic as grading has been linked to professional capability.

'Circling the Squares' offers an overview of how several large colleges manage their observation systems for lecturers who deliver both HE and FE. It asks whether these are sufficient to ensure the quality of teaching and learning for HE students and outlines how some colleges are introducing criteria to meet its specific demands. In particular, it evaluates an observation system introduced in one large college and assesses the extent of its success.

Session C – Room GG03

1.20-1.45 **Paragogy and Personal Learning Networks** **Joel Nally**
(Lecturer in Music/Performing Arts)

Mid-Cheshire College

My research has focused on the concept of 'paragogy', or peer learning, especially in the context of digital collaboration. The project brought together students with shared research interests to develop a collaborative digital learning network, refine and enhance specific research activities and support each other's learning.

The project aimed to give the students a sense of 'ownership' of the research process, by developing an environment in which to produce and host their own learning resources, and also provide a wider audience for the results of their work, by presenting research in a collaborative online portfolio.

1.50-2.15 **Music as Medicine** **Ed Barford**

Studying HND Music Practice
Mid-Cheshire College

My presentation will explore my research findings as to whether music can replace some medicines. I will discuss some of the ways in which music helps the vulnerable, sick or disabled and also personal experiences relating to the subject.

2.20-2.45 **Measuring the Impact of Flipped Learning in a College Based Higher Education Setting** **Rupon Miah**
(Lecturer in Computing)

Warrington Collegiate

A step away from traditional teaching methods and look into the impact flipped learning can have in College Based Higher Education settings. My study explores methods to enhance teaching styles with flexible approaches to teaching and learning, shifting the paradigm from teacher focussed to student focused learning.

Session D – Room TBC

1.20-1.45	Engaging Engineering Students with the Body of Research in the Discipline as a Means to Keep Abreast of the Leading Edge of Technology and Enhance their Research Skills	Nita Rahate (Lecturer in Engineering) <i>Warrington Collegiate</i>
	<p>Research is an integral and essential part of the day-to day activity of the engineering sector, enabling it to continue to develop wider knowledge and meet customer requirements globally. Today's engineers need to engage with current leading edge technology and develop their own research skills in order to compete in a fast-paced arena.</p> <p>UK based universities enforce research as an integral part of the curriculum in order to support students into employment or further study. Research skills are also developed while undertaking HE courses in FE colleges; my study focuses on the engagement of students with the body of academic literature surrounding engineering to enhance a more robust approach to research.</p>	
1.50-2.15	Carrot and Stick –Educational Trips	Abbie Barron, Danielle Colquhoun, Nicole Garoui, Aaron Higgs, Tom Kent, Ross Poynton and Anthony Robson <i>Studying HND Public Services Mid-Cheshire College</i>
	<p>Are educational trips beneficial to the learning experience? Will learners benefit from the experience and learn new skills? What is their benefit in the future? Our research project explores these questions. We wanted to investigate the impact of educational trips in terms of their benefit in the long term and the extent to which they contribute to the achievement of qualifications. In turn by gaining a qualification, we were interested in whether students who are more employable are less likely to turn to crime.</p>	
2.20-2.45	.NET Programming – German Game Application	Sheena Caskie <i>Studying HND Computing and Systems Development Mid-Cheshire College</i>
	<p>My Presentation will be based on the project undertaken as part of my HND to develop a Microsoft Windows Application that allows users to test their German language skills through an interactive PC desktop game.</p>	

Comfort Break 2.50pm - 3.05pm

Please return promptly to the final session

Scholarship Breakout Sessions

PLEASE ATTEND ONE SESSION: E, F or G (3.10pm – 4.05pm) then return to GG08/GG10

Session E – Main Conference Room GG08/GG10		
3.10-3.35	The Effects of Music on Untrained College Students Undertaking Exercise	<p>Raheel Rashid</p> <p><i>Studying HND Sports & Exercise Sciences</i></p> <p><i>Warrington Collegiate</i></p> <p>This study explores the effects of music on subjects undertaking bench presses and leg presses. The rationale for the study, its process and outcomes will be discussed.</p>
3.40-4.05	Blended Wing Body Vs Airbus 380 Aerodynamic	<p>Byron Kelly</p> <p><i>Studying HND Aerospace Engineering</i></p> <p><i>Macclesfield College</i></p> <p>This project explores the difference between blended wing aircraft and conventional aircraft (Airbus A380). The project hypothesises that BWB aircraft have a greater advantage for aerodynamic performance overall than conventional aircraft. The project work covers performance, aerodynamics, lift, and the effects on the environment. In this presentation, I aim to demonstrate the proof of my hypothesis; that a blended wing body aircraft has much improved aerodynamics than a conventional aircraft such as the airbus A380.</p>

Session F – Room GG06		
3.10-3.35	Identifying Motivational Factors in Malawi's National Football Team Despite Perennial Inadequacy of Resources	<p>Charles Leyman Kachitsa (Lecturer in Business)</p> <p><i>Macclesfield College</i></p> <p>My main area of interest is transferability of skills. My research study focuses on motivation in football; the subject of the research being a national football team in Africa, Malawi. The research question centres on trying to find out what motivates the players of this team since the team itself is lacking adequate financial resources. The research outputs could be transferable for application to work organisations that are struggling financially but desire to motivate their staff. The research is based on the management practice of motivation with some elements of sports management especially in the literature review.</p>
3.40-4.05	Design and Operation of Vehicle Reversing Sensors	<p>Christopher Davies</p> <p><i>Studying HND Electrical And Electronic Engineering</i></p> <p><i>Warrington Collegiate</i></p> <p>This presentation will detail the research and development that has been undertaken to produce a working example of vehicle reversing sensors.</p>

Session G – Room GG03

3.10-3.30	Modelling and Suggesting Methods for the Improvement of Rocket Engine Efficiency	James Gates <i>Studying HND Aerospace Engineering Macclesfield College</i>
	<p>This engineering project explored how the efficiency of a rocket engine can be increased by conducting an investigation into some of the greatest losses of efficiency during the rocket's operation. This is done by simulating the ascent of an F-1 rocket engine through international standard atmosphere to an altitude of 11,000 metres using a mathematical model. The methodology used outlined the process of carrying out the simulations as well as justifying the process selected to conduct the simulation. The results gathered from the simulation are presented and discussed along with any proposed methods for improving the efficiency of the rocket engine based on the findings presented. Various methods for improvement have been discussed based on the findings of the model, conclusions from the project are drawn and presented. The findings are analysed in a critical reflection of the work conducted for the whole project.</p>	
3.35-3.50	Developing a Greater Understanding of the Gap Between Person-centred Counselling and Psychopathology	Alexandra Wyatt <i>Studying Person-Centred Counselling BSc South Cheshire College (Validated by the University of Derby)</i>
	<p>I aim to discuss the reasons why the gap between person-centred counselling and psychopathology exists, and look at reasons for and against bridging the gap. I will do this by briefly looking at the person-centred view of psychopathology, and by relating the views of contemporary person-centred theorists in relation to the disease, medical and drug models.</p>	
3.50-4.10	An Investigation into the Aerodynamic Performance of Delta Wing Shapes	Michael Pennington <i>Studying HND Aerospace Engineering Macclesfield College</i>
	<p>In this engineering project, an investigation into the aerodynamic performance of delta wing shapes has been undertaken. This is achieved by creating flat plate models of different shapes of delta wings and using a wind tunnel, equipped with force gauges, which are used to determine lift and drag values, to make a graph. The stall point of the plate is found from this graph.</p>	

4.10pm-4.15pm

GG08/GG10

Plenary and close

We hope you have enjoyed the conference - please complete our quick evaluation survey which will be emailed to you shortly