CETL
Centre for Excellence in Teaching & Learning

CETL Launches

The CETL was officially launched in December with key presentations from Clare Short MP and Carole Webb, CETL Manager at the Higher Education Funding Council. Over 100 people attended from NHS partners, UCE Birmingham Faculties, other Universities and the Higher Education Academy at the event held at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

The launch was chaired by UCE Birmingham Chairman, and Chair of East Birmingham PCT, Paul Sabapathy CBE, and guests included Professor Peter Knight, Vice Chancellor and Professor Phil Walkling, Pro-Vice Chancellor. The presentations from Clare Short and Carole Webb were followed by talks from Paul O'Connor, Chief Executive at BCH, Dr Stuart Brand, CETL Director, and members of the CETL team.

As a direct result of the day the Faculty has been asked to host two Higher Education Academy events in the near future. The event also resulted in the creation of new partnerships, new proposals and in planning being undertaken for a similar event at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

On 31 March 2006 staff at Birmingham Children's Hospital held their own internal CETL launch event which was attended by nearly 70 members of BCH staff from all spectrums of its work. The event provided excellent feedback as the participants generated ideas for future collaborations and advised the CETL team about how best the partners could work together.

The event was organised by Lesley Robertson-Steel and Karl Emms at BCH, to whom the CETL would like to record its thanks. It is anticipated that a similar event will be held at University Hospital Birmingham as CETL opportunities are made available to that new partner.

CETL NEWSLETTER SPRING 06

UCE BIRMINGHAM
Faculty of Health

New Funding, New Partners, New Opportunities

New Funding

In April the CETL was advised that it had been successful in obtaining a further £245,000 from the Higher Education Funding Council to jointly develop with University Hospital Birmingham a major new skills and simulation facility. The location of the facility has yet to be determined, but we anticipate facilities being generated at UCE Birmingham and UHB.

New Partners - University of Pittsburgh

This welcome news was followed by an invitation to visit the University of Pittsburgh's School of Nursing and WISER Medical Simulation facility. As a result of the visit, the University of Pittsburgh has agreed to act as a consultant to our planned simulation and skills development (as part of a wider collaboration) which will look at the generation of comparative and evaluative studies in skills and simulation teaching. The collaboration may also result in other benefits such as student and staff exchanges.

For more details contact **luke.millard@uce.ac.uk**

New Opportunities

As a direct output of the collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh, the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) has choosen UCE Birmingham as a pilot site for its study on the use of simulation.

The project aims to develop UK-wide principles for the use of simulation to support practice learning. CETL funding will ensure that the Faculty is equipped with the simulation facilities to deliver a worthwhile and thoroughly evaluated project. We understand that the bid was viewed as 'outstanding' and congratulate the skills team that drew up the proposal.

The pilot study runs from September 2006 and will therefore have an immediate impact on our nursing students.

For more information contact:
lilieth.williams@uce.ac.uk

Higher Education Academy and CETL

The Faculty will be hosting two meetings for the Higher Education Academy in the summer.

In-context Series

The HEA Health Sciences and Practice Subject Centre and Keith Ward (from the University of Huddersfield) asked UCE Birmingham to help further develop his in-context series of anonymous patient notes and scenarios and create some truly inter-professional examples. A group of staff from Birmingham, Aston and UCE Birmingham met to discuss the possibilities and draw up some examples to help take this initiative forward.

In addition, the CETL has agreed to subscribe to this work and ensure UCE Birmingham staff have access to the scenarios that Keith and his team have developed. At present there are 200 real patient case studies covering all branches of nursing, but they also include multidisciplinary notes, medical notes, x-rays, biochem results and some speech therapy notes etc. This excellent resource could be used to develop case study materials for a whole range of modules/courses.

For further information on this contact **jane.richardson@uce.ac.uk**

Partnerships for Success

In July the Faculty will host a larger event for CETLs across the country entitled 'Partnerships for Success'. At the heart of many CETLs are ideas around the creation of effective partnerships to improve the student learning and teaching experience.

The HEA Health Sciences and Practice and Social Policy and Social Work Subject Centres have asked UCE Birmingham to host the first of what may be a series of workshops that will build on the experiences of CETLs and seek to provide examples of good practice.

We have invited all CETLs to send a representative to this meeting, but have asked that they be accompanied by a representative from one of their partners. In this way we hope to gain the view of HE and partnership organisations/communities as we explore how to generate and sustain effective partnerships.

For further information contact **luke.millard@uce.ac.uk**

Project Funding Simplified

The CETL and Faculty continues to learn about how best to support learning and teaching project development. Your feedback has demonstrated that the existing project proposal procedure is too cumbersome. A much simpler and quicker project proposal process is to be put before CETL approval bodies in early May to seek to encourage new applicants. Talk to Patricia Fell for more information about how we can help you through the process and how much easier it has become to get your project up and running.

For further information contact **patricia.fell@uce.ac.uk**

"This kind of learning helps you to think more clinically and improves your confidence when assessing patients."

"A very useful approach. Really gets us thinking about what we are doing. A session that we can really learn from. Very good/useful as it is available for us to use at home and not just in the sessions in university time."

Virtual Ward: An Inter-modular Patient Assessment Simulation

This on-line resource provides learners with a virtual environment in which they can access resources more flexibly and learn at their own pace. Its key aim is to enhance learners' assessment skills and ability to interpret the significance of patient signs and symptoms. The Virtual Ward has been developed to be used as a stand alone learning environment or to complement other teaching and is being used to support education and training programmes within the higher education and health service sectors.

Within the Virtual Ward students can identify and solve patient problems by identifying relevant clinical information from a wide range of sources. These include video handovers, drug charts, observation charts, care plans, medical notes, lab results and x-rays.

Using the assessment simulation, learners can choose how they will prioritise the assessment of each patient. By clicking on a series of icons or items from a drop down menu, new patient information can be generated. The simulation however, only allows 15 choices to be made from approximately 30 plus parameters and feedback on the appropriateness of each choice is made.

Perhaps the most important feature of the Virtual Ward resource is the opportunity for teachers to change much of the content it contains using a simple content management system. For example, all of the charts, assessment values, external hyperlinks and supporting information can be adapted and changed to meet the specific teaching needs of academic and practice staff.

Nine tertiary care cases are in use or in development and a series of community based cases are also being planned as the project has attracted significant national and international interest. Student evaluations have been positive indicating that the resource better prepares students to assess patients, improves their ability to interpret clinical findings and promotes less strategic learning.

If you would like to know more about the Virtual Ward please contact **nigel.wynne@uce.ac.uk**

"Very useful - interactive- learning step by step at our own pace of learning."

"I think it's a good way to learn and it involves everyone and keeps our concentration. It's also good for conquering fear of computers!!!!"

Staff Consultation Events

The CETL has funded nine staff consultation events between February and May 2006. Over 270 staff from academic, administrative and technical support areas will have taken part in the consultation. The events used the 'world café method' to discuss four areas of work:

• Which aspects of the way we work are successful and how should we support them for wider adoption or dissemination?

• How can we employ change and the opportunities provided by new funding to improve our working lives?

• How can we make best use of our learning environment and provide the kind of services that we need to create a really flexible and modern approach to learning?

• How can we adapt to the increased demand for learning in the workplace?

The final event took place on May 3rd and a report will be circulated to all participants. The report will form a major part of a Faculty management event in May 2006 and a response to the consultation results, with a timescale for implementation, will then be produced by the Faculty.

For further information contact **luke.millard@uce.ac.uk**

Learning and Teaching Workshops

The Faculty launched its sixth series of learning and teaching workshops in April and these continue throughout May and June. In a new initiative to engage with partners we are now inviting practice placement managers, practice staff and staff from other faculties in the University to attend these workshops.

The workshops for Spring 2006 are:

19th May 2006   Skills, Simulation and Success

26th May 2006   Faculty Learning and Teaching Task Group: Good Practice Workshop

1st June 2006   E-portfolios and its applicability to you and your students

8th June 2006   Facilitating the student group : Enhancing learning through group-work

12th June 2006 Teaching with Emotional Intelligence

Please contact **katie.bostridge@uce.ac.uk** for more details.

Learning and Teaching Task Group Applications

The second Learning and Teaching Task Group will be presenting their projects on 26th May at an event chaired by Professor John Cowan, Consultant to the Task Group. All staff are invited to attend this event which will showcase the work of the Task Group members.

In addition the workshop will provide the first information on the process for the next round of Task Group applications which should be available in June. New task group members will be expected to start projects in September 2006 and it is likely that the Faculty will commission some projects and look at the opportunity for team based proposals.

Contact **luke.millard@uce.ac.uk**

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The Faculty's Learning and Teaching Strategy was written in 2003 and the time has come for it to be refreshed. The Learning and Teaching Task Group has been charged by Academic Board with producing this new strategy by the end of July 2006. The Task Group will be seeking input from Faculty staff and students over the next few months so please engage and help to shape our learning and teaching future.

Contact **luke.millard@uce.ac.uk**

Student News

Students are a key stakeholder within the Faculty and CETL funding has allowed us to invest in creating a joint appointment with UCE Birmingham Students' Union to seek to achieve a higher level of student engagement in Faculty decision making. Rebecca Freeman, Representation Co-ordinator is working with many of you and your students to generate a new level of student involvement. In recent months Rebecca has enabled:

- A representative group of students to participate in focus groups to feed into the QAA review. A number of issues raised are being addressed through various Faculty projects, such as the development of the student representative system.

- Following successful recruitment around the Faculty we now have 12 trained student ambassadors who will be visiting schools and colleges to introduce opportunities at the University.

- A group of students attended a recent QAA student/service user event which looked at how students and service users can work together in Healthcare Education. Feedback from the event was positive and will be developed through various Faculty initiatives.

- A conference at Manchester University built upon plans to set up a student network for students involved with CETL projects around the country. The network, supported by the Higher Education Academy intends to enable students involved with learning projects to share and learn from each others experiences.

- Work has begun on the development of the Student Representation System (currently STAR), within the Faculty. Feedback from the QAA, visits to Board of Studies and to other universities will form the basis of a policy and best practice document for student reps and course staff. Better support for student reps through training, handbooks for students and staff and regular student forums are high on the agenda.

- Students will be invited to find out more about CETL projects and sign up for faculty activities at IPL events this year. This started at Aston Villa on the 3rd May 2006.

Contact **rebecca.freeman@uce.ac.uk** for further information about innovative ways to access student input.

CETL Diary

February 2006

- HEFCE additional CETL funding of £245,000 confirmed
- Staff consultation events begin
- CETL co-ordinates UCE Birmingham input for QAA Skills for Health event for service users and students
- Student network event at Manchester Metropolitan University
- CETL presents at Royal College of Nursing Education Conference, Cardiff regarding the Virtual Ward project and findings from the MESA project
- North Birmingham PCT placement project begins
- CETL presentation at UCE Birmingham HEFCE Capital Steering Group
- CETL meets with Information Services to expand MOODLE to Trust partners

March 2006

- Donna Wareham presentation at NADD Congress, Boston, USA
- Visit by Faculty team to University of Pittsburgh and WISER Institute
- Birmingham Children's Hospital internal CETL launch
- CETL presentation at UHB Major Review Forum
- Virtual Ward presentation on JISC on-line conference and Nottingham Trent University Learning and Teaching Conference
- CETL Steering Group meeting

April 2006

- CETL, BCH and funders to discuss possible joint proposal for Centre for Research and Innovation
- Principal Officers from Department for Education and Skills visit CETL
- CETL presents at All Together Better Health III Conference, London
- 22 senior academics/managers from Universities in Switzerland visit CETL
- Faculty Learning and Teaching workshop series begins
- Discussions with UHB regarding simulation and skills developments
- MOODLE presentation at Learning Beyond Registration event
- Third meeting of CETL Service User and Carer involvement group
- CETL publicity to students begins with student postcard and posters
- NMC award UCE Birmingham pilot site status for its study on the use of simulation
- Staff consultation events continue