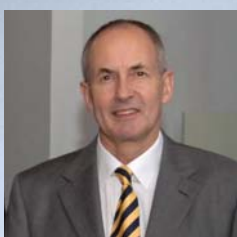




## “Best Learning Experience in the West Midlands”

*“Please pass on the thanks of the UCE Birmingham Board to all concerned in the Faculty of Health. Achievements such as this do not just happen. It is because of excellent leadership by Stewart Buchanan and his senior team, and the dedicated hard work and commitment of all the academic and non academic staff. The Board are delighted that our students are getting the best learning experience in the West Midlands. Brilliant result. Congratulations to everyone.”*

**Paul Sabapathy, CBE, Chairman of Board of Governors, UCE Birmingham**



*“The excellent QAA result means that UCE Birmingham is well on its way to cementing its place of becoming the first choice for health professionals in the region. This achievement at QAA is gained despite having a considerably larger and more complex provision than most other universities. To combine this with achieving CETL status and having now been selected by the NMC as a Pilot site for simulation and skills work, for which we believe UCE Birmingham was one of the strongest applications, leads me to conclude that Health at UCE Birmingham should start to have more to say nationally and internationally about the quality of its work. These are exciting times!”*

**Professor Stewart Buchanan, Dean, UCE Birmingham Faculty of Health**



The track record of achievements by the Faculty of Health is starting to mark it out as a significant player within the University and in health care provision nationally. In the past 18 months the Faculty has been awarded:

- A Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (only 74 of 260 chosen)
- Pilot site status for the Nursing and Midwifery Council for the Simulation and Practice Learning project (only 13 of 36 chosen)
- An excellent QAA Major Review report for UCE Birmingham and its partners.

This is a time to be very proud to be a member of staff in the Faculty of Health at UCE Birmingham. Rarely have there been such opportunities available and such levels of recognition within and outside the University.

*“This Faculty is now recognised nationally by independent quality and funding organisations as being one of the best in the sector. We should all be very proud of that and should get out and tell people of the work we are doing at the University and with our partners. It’s time to share our experience and excellence with the wider sector and take advantage of the opportunities we now have.”*

**Professor Stuart Brand, CETL Director**

## Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Simulation Practice

UCE Birmingham's Faculty of Health has been successfully nominated as one of thirteen national pilot sites to participate in this NMC project. The project, running from September 2006 to December 2006, will support student nurses in undertaking up to 10% of simulated learning as a replacement for clinical placement hours.

During the project phase UCE Birmingham will have over 1000 nursing students (from all four branches; adult, child, mental health and learning disabilities) participating in the project. Approximately 600 hours of simulated learning activities will take place. To enable this, the CETL will be investing up to £500,000 to create new simulation environments. This will ensure UCE Birmingham has the capability of replicating the clinical environment and promote effective student learning. Practice partners have demonstrated a real enthusiasm for the project and will be supporting the scenarios in development and implementation.

Contact: [lindsay.yardley@uce.ac.uk](mailto:lindsay.yardley@uce.ac.uk)



## New Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Following a substantial staff consultation exercise in the spring of 2006 a number of key issues were highlighted as needing to be addressed by the Faculty in the coming years. These points were identified and used as the basis for additional consultations about the Faculty's new learning, teaching and assessment strategy. A series of six lunchtime events were held in late June and July to obtain staff opinion. A separate consultation exercise was undertaken with students which was co-ordinated through Rebecca Freeman. The next stage of this process will result in a draft strategy being presented to Academic Board. We would like to thank all those who took part and offered their valuable opinions.

Contact: [nicola.bartholomew@uce.ac.uk](mailto:nicola.bartholomew@uce.ac.uk)

## Totally Wireless

The CETL in collaboration with the Faculty's Teaching and Learning Support Services has embarked on a project to create a wireless environment at the Faculty's Westbourne campus to increase access to learning. UCE Birmingham Central IT Services had previously set up wireless hotspots in student areas such as the canteens and libraries last year but the CETL is going one stage further by covering all student spaces at the Westbourne campus with a wireless cloud.



In total, 26 Wireless access points will be set up in Seacole Building, Bevan House and Ravensbury House to provide seamless cover of all Learning and Teaching spaces on the Westbourne campus. This will enable students to access the UCE Birmingham network via their personal wireless devices or via university laptops which will be available for loan to all students.

The wireless cloud will be developed over the summer for use by students in the next academic year and beyond. A similar exercise at Perry Barr is being undertaken by the University's IT services to ensure total coverage for Faculty staff and students at that campus.

Contact: [steve.faulkner@uce.ac.uk](mailto:steve.faulkner@uce.ac.uk)



# Learning Technologists in Health

The Faculty has just appointed Janine Stephenson and Timothy Marquis as full time Learning Technologists based within the Learning Partnerships Development Unit, Room 457 Seacole Building, Westbourne Campus.

Janine's background is as a freelance interactive Flash animator/web designer and is a graduate of BIAD, welcome back to UCE Birmingham Janine! Prior to this appointment, Tim worked within the Educational Technology Team at Birmingham University as a multimedia designer and 3D modeller.



Both are academic members of staff on permanent contracts and will form part of the Learning Technology Group within LPDU and will be managed by Nigel Wynne, Senior Academic, LPDU. They bring to the Faculty an enhanced capacity to develop a whole range of custom designed, highly interactive multimedia learning objects (relatively small learning resources) that can be applied by staff within a wide variety of settings. They will also create a repository of existing Learning Objects in order to help staff source pre-developed health and social care related resources.



## How might you get Learning Technology Support for a Project?

We've already had lots of interest from staff regarding Janine and Tim's skills and taken at face value this represents a significant body of work. Please feel free to discuss any ideas that you may have with either Nigel, Tim or Janine (details below), and if you still think these are "doable" you may want to submit a Learning and Teaching Project Proposal. More information on how such proposals will be judged will be provided in the short term.

It is anticipated that information about all current Learning Technology projects, stages of development and the names of the development team will be available for all to see, probably within a MOODLE site, in the near future.

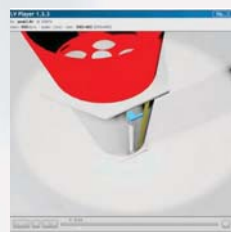
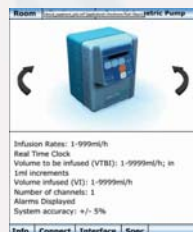
Contact:

**Nigel Wynne - 0121 331 7172 / nigel.wynne@uce.ac.uk**

**Janine Stephenson - 0121 331 6127 / janine.stephenson@uce.ac.uk**

**Timothy Marquis - 0121 331 6127 / timothy.marquis@uce.ac.uk**

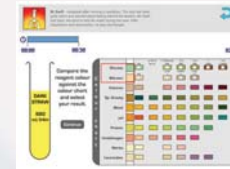
## Work Produced or Sourced by the Learning Technology Group



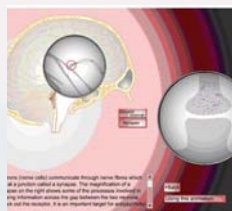
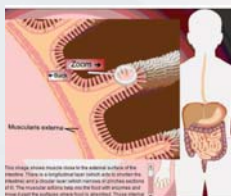
### Modelled Devices



### Modelled Environments



### Urinalysis



Physiology and Anatomy  
Produced by the SONIC project<sup>o</sup>  
University of Central Lancashire  
2001-2004

## National Student Network for CETLs

The aim of the network is primarily to provide a forum for discussion, debate and advice for students and student coordinators working within CETLs. The Higher Education Academy (HEA) will provide students with space on the main HEA website to create a page for each CETL providing an overview of student-related activities.

These pages are intended to provide basic information for CETLs who currently have no students working with them but wish to change that, or CETLs who simply want an idea of student-related affairs within other CETLs.

The project is being led by UCE Birmingham's CETL student appointment, Rebecca Freeman. The network will be given a formal footing and all CETL student or student representatives will attend a national student network meeting on Thursday 24th August.

Contact [rebecca.freeman@uce.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.freeman@uce.ac.uk)

## Student Ambassadors Take Off

In January 2006 Mohammed Rahim was appointed (through CETL and SHA funding) as Diversity Projects Co-ordinator (based within the Personal Development Centre), to lead the Faculty's new Student Ambassadors Scheme. This project aims to use students to work within Birmingham's diverse community to encourage interest in health service careers in ways that are culturally appropriate to a BME audience.



A selection process was held for students wishing to become part of the scheme. The standard of applicant was very high and those selected attended a two day residential to be trained before they could work in the community. The attendees at one of these sessions are pictured in the attached photo.

The students were from a variety of courses: Nursing, Health Studies, Midwifery, Social Work, and Speech and Language. Only one male applicant was appointed and the students came from a variety of year groups. The ambassadors are now engaged in attending events throughout Birmingham Schools, The Lord Mayor's Show and various open days. Initial feedback has been very positive and further evaluation will be undertaken.

Contact: [mohammed.rahim@uce.ac.uk](mailto:mohammed.rahim@uce.ac.uk)



## Service User and Carers Initiative Expands

The Faculty supports a considerable amount of good practice and development in service user involvement, led by colleagues in Mental Health, Social Work and Learning Disability. In September 2005, a new group of faculty colleagues met, under the CETL umbrella, to share their common interests in service user and carer involvement. This group still seeks additional membership to ensure full cross faculty representation and has begun to recruit service user and carer colleagues.

The overarching aim of the group is supporting the faculty commitment to engaging service users and carers in all aspects of learning and teaching. The group plans to address some of the key challenges and barriers to inclusion:

- To adopt a pan-disability and life course approach;
- To attempt to represent service users and carers as distinct stakeholder groups;
- To work alongside individuals as well as organisations representing service user and carers.

The group wants to become a focus for sharing existing good practice, as well as the innovation, evaluation and dissemination of new and ongoing work. The pursuit of realistic and meaningful integration to enhance student learning is the key to success in these areas.

This development work is not only concerned with clients with long term conditions or disabilities, but also with short term and acute interventions. In the high quality service delivery expected of our graduates, even the briefest client interaction needs to be underpinned by knowledge and understanding of the needs and rights of service users and carers.

To date, the group has agreed terms of reference, devised an organisational structure that will ensure sustainability post CETL and begun to network with a range of service user individuals and organisations, such as the Department of Work and Pensions, CSIP (Care Standards Improvement Partnership and SCIE (Social Care Institute of Excellence). Service user and carer colleagues and Patient and Public Involvement leads from partner trusts BCH and UHB are vital members of the group.

The group now wishes to recruit faculty, service user and carer colleagues to join a number of working groups and to help devise an action plan for the next 12 months.

CETL wants to draw existing good practice together and will fund continuing development over the next four years. If you have an example of good practice, we'd like you to share it: CETL can help you build and disseminate your work. If you have an idea for integrating service users and carers in learning and teaching, CETL can help you realise it.

We already have a number of collaborative projects waiting to be commissioned: for example:

- To explore the need for a West Midlands parent carer council
- To develop an electronic induction, resource and training pack
- To develop accessible training and curricula for carers wishing to enter employment and/ or study
- To develop a Service User and Carer Centre on campus

The next meeting is on Tuesday 12th September at 2 pm in 130 Bevan House. Meetings are open to all; the agenda for the next meeting, notes of previous meetings, terms of reference and progress reports are all available to view via the CETL website.

For more information, please see the CETL website [www.health.uce.ac.uk/cetl](http://www.health.uce.ac.uk/cetl) or contact [robin.gutteridge@uce.ac.uk](mailto:robin.gutteridge@uce.ac.uk)



## Evaluation Capacity in the Faculty

The CETL has received 63 applications for its recent advertisements to appoint a research fellow and research assistant to co-ordinate the evaluation of the CETL.

Our CETL seeks to develop a model of partnership that may be of interest to the wider health and higher education sectors. In order to disseminate such a model we need to collect credible evidence in order to substantiate a claim of successful partnership. There is a need therefore, to evaluate structures and processes that might be influential in facilitating partnership between the partners identified in our bid document.

Additionally, the individual projects funding strand of the UCE Birmingham CETL attracts applications from a variety of staff across the wider faculty; each of which should be fully evaluated. Many of these projects are supported with reasonably modest funds which do not necessarily allow for funded time to evaluate or to develop the skill set required to undertake effective evaluation activity. The appointment of a research fellow and a research assistant will provide some evaluation support for both the individual projects and the wider partnership evaluation work streams.

The research staff are to be appointed for a fixed term of three years and it is anticipated that they will both respond to emerging evaluation needs as projects develop as well as proactively identifying CETL activity to be evaluated.

Contact: [paul.bartholomew@uce.ac.uk](mailto:paul.bartholomew@uce.ac.uk)

## Learning Partnerships with the Higher Education Academy

In July, UCE Birmingham hosted a workshop for the Higher Education Academy (HEA) which focused on promoting collaboration between CETLs seeking to develop strategies for the development of learning partnerships and their evaluation.

The event was attended by representatives from a variety of Universities including the CETLs at Leeds, Loughborough, Roehampton, Sheffield, Birmingham and the Royal Veterinary College. In addition two HEA Subject Centres attended from the Health Sciences and Practice and Social Work and Social Policy subject centres. Outcomes from the day include a desire to follow up this meeting and sustain relationships through CETL networks.

For further information please contact:

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W [www.health.uce.ac.uk/cetl](http://www.health.uce.ac.uk/cetl)

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