



SLN Newsletter 5 — end of summer term report!

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Sussex Learning Network's (SLN) regular newsletter.

This end of summer term edition focuses on the breadth and wealth of activity that has been undertaken over the last few months.

Sussex Vocational Progression Accord

The SLN is developing special arrangements to help learners in Sussex to get onto the courses they want. These are called progression agreements. The Sussex Vocational Progression Accord sets out the commitment of the universities, colleges, local authorities and employers' organisations in Sussex to make vocational learning a shared priority. 26 key partners, including all the providers of further and higher education across Sussex, have signed up to the Sussex Vocational Progression Accord, and details of individual agreements in different subject areas will begin to be promoted to learners from September 2007.



Details of the progression agreements will be made accessible to learners by September through the student-facing 'Learning opportunities' section of our website.

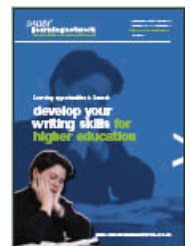
Learning opportunities - website launched

'Learning opportunities' is a new innovative online resource for vocational learners in Sussex and those who advise them. It provides a wide range of resources, including an 'ask an adviser' facility and a series of fact sheets covering a variety of topics such as finance, part-time study and work-based learning.



Printed versions of the fact sheets are currently being distributed around Sussex and printer-friendly versions are also available to download from our website.

This new resource is the culmination of months of dedicated work from our IAG Team. Alongside this our team are developing an Adviser's Pack which will support IAG providers in using the resource with learners.



The IAG team will be out and about around Sussex delivering a range of training sessions to support advisers in making use of these resources. If you are interested in one of our team coming to visit you, attend a staff meeting or do a lunchtime session, or would like to attend one of our training events, please contact Maureen Haywood (m.haywood@brighton.ac.uk)

Student Network Sussex - website launched

The Student Network is a team of eight vocational students from a variety of colleges and universities in the Sussex area, who have come together to create this interactive website for the benefit of other vocational learners.



The site contains profiles of the team and a growing number of case studies from other vocational students in Sussex.

The development of the website is the first in a series of activities from the SLN student consultants who are engaging the views of vocational learners. The website will be marketed over the summer and more exciting developments are planned. Contact Rebecca Duffy (r.i.duffy@brighton.ac.uk) for more information.



Profiles of Sussex vocational students!

As part of the SLN's marketing activity to promote vocational learning opportunities, our partners have come together to provide case studies profiling a broad range of experiences of Sussex vocational students. The 11 profiles to date include:

- Will Palmer studying a foundation degree in Travel & Tourism
- Charlotte Cotcher studying a foundation degree Business and Management
- Toni Williams and Julie Wilkinson studying a HND in Animal Management

Seven successful Sussex conferences

With over 420 registrations at our marathon of seven conferences in two days, this year's annual event was bigger and better than ever. The 7 conferences brought together people with a wide range of experience and interests, and engaged our largest audience so far.

Feedback on the conferences includes:

- An excellent and informative two days
- Good mix of people, stimulating discussions
- Well organised and informative
- Well put together and very inclusive. Brisk, engaging pace that kept interest !



A date for your diary: next year's annual conference will be held on Wed 25th - Thurs 26th June 2008

Facts, figures & statistics - pilot launched

A new pilot section of our website has been launched to provide easy access to data that will be of use to a range of organisations, from the SLN and its partners to consultants, local businesses, academics and members of the public.

The primary objective of this site is to make information easily accessible to those developing the curriculum. This will support their research into new and growth areas of demand for qualifications and skills in Sussex. We hope this will help shape the provision ('supply') of appropriate courses to meet the needs of Sussex residents and its economy.



Sections published over the coming weeks will include:

- education, qualifications & skills
- local economy, employment & labour market
- society and population demographics
- environment

If you would like to know more about this resource as it grows or are looking for information about Sussex, please contact Peter Rainger (p.f.rainger@sussex.ac.uk).



Creating a brighter future for Sussex learners

The Sussex Learning Network has created 725 additional places for people to study in Sussex. Learners thinking about starting a course in 2007 will benefit from additional places on over 40 courses, including some that are completely new, delivered by universities and colleges at 10 different locations across Sussex.

To support recruitment to these exciting new opportunities, the SLN is running a marketing campaign throughout the summer. Look out for the brightly coloured posters and postcards promoting the range of courses available (see examples to the right).

66 adverts will appear in bus shelters in East and West Sussex, and in Brighton and Hove, between 4 June and 9 September 2007. Billboards in Hastings and Crawley will also feature SLN courses between these dates. These will be accompanied by **40 adverts on buses** covering East and West Sussex in June and August.

For each of these subject areas, a different poster and postcard have been produced and **42,000 of these postcards will be distributed** to venues across Sussex between June and August 2007. These will go to publicly accessible buildings such as libraries and community centres, and they will also be distributed to appropriate venues according to the subject area featured, for example the sport and leisure postcards will go to leisure centres and sporting venues.

News in brief

[Underpinning learning, teaching and assessment with pedagogic research](#)

An event on 19 October will showcase some of the ways in which colleagues at the University of Brighton and partner colleges are using pedagogic research to enhance their learning, teaching and assessment practices.

[QAA launches new Access to HE diploma](#)

A new nationally-recognised, diploma qualification will be available to all who successfully complete an Access to Higher Education course.

[Engaging senior managers in the skills agenda](#)

Engaging senior managers in an active dialogue about the skills agenda has been identified as a priority in a recent report on employer engagement and higher level skills in the South East

[32 percent of graduates look for employment leading to a professional qualification](#)

The UK Graduate Careers Survey 2007 produced in association with The Times has been released.

[Personalised learning plans in LLNs](#)

A HEFCE report presents the outcomes of a study designed to help LLNs to develop good practice in personalised learning plans.

[Report identifies land-based studies are strategically important to the nation](#)

HEFCE has commissioned an independent review of land-based studies courses to identify any mismatch between supply and demand.

where
are you
going?

create a
brighter
future

make
it work
for you

make
care your
future

take
your
place

get
on
track

get
out
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