



## SLN Newsletter 4 — special edition, Sussex Learning Network events

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

This special edition focuses on a series of major Sussex based events which we have organised for April, May and June 2007. There is no charge for these events which are part of our commitment to providing opportunities for all to share good practice and shape the future of the SLN and its activities.

Now open for booking	June 20, 21	SLN annual two day conference
Places still available	May 9	e-Learning conference
Fully booked	April 20	Foundation degree symposium

Now open for booking!

June 20 and 21: SLN annual conference  
– seven Sussex conferences in two days



### [Learning what works – learning at work in Sussex](#)

This second annual conference of the SLN has something for everyone with an interest in vocational learning. It is open to learners, employers and practitioners who are welcome to attend one or both days. Like our other events, it is entirely free. See the full programme and book online at [www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk](http://www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk).

### [Day one, June 20 – Learning what works in Sussex](#)

On offer is an innovative menu of six separate conferences at different locations in or near Brighton. Each one focuses on a particular area of the curriculum. The events are being organised by staff working in further and higher education in Sussex. Select from:

- Making it in the Creative Industries
- The Foundation Degree in Biosciences: a flexible approach to learning
- Building communities
- Supporting vocational learning in social care
- Developing, supporting, informing – travel, tourism, retail and hospitality
- Creating the workforce legacy – sport and leisure



### [Day two, June 21 – Learning at work in Sussex](#)

This conference takes as its starting point the Leitch Report. In his report, Lord Leitch argues that people should have more opportunities to develop their careers in the workplace. These opportunities should extend from apprenticeships, to degrees and programmes for those leading and managing organisations. Yet how much do we know about work based or related learning? What do employers, learners and those offering advice make of the provision?

The day continues with a series of parallel workshops and a keynote from Lyn Brennan, Academic Consultant and author of the UVAC report on Integrating Work Based Learning into Higher Education.



**What do we want from learning at work?** Featuring the views of local employers and trades union representatives.

**How can I learn at work?** Led by learners, advisory staff and those developing new programmes of study designed to link learning and work.

**What can we learn from research?** Featuring a range of projects currently going on in Sussex to shed light on our understanding of work and learning.

The conference will close with a panel session - **What next for vocational learning in Sussex?**

[Places still available](#)

[May 9: e-Learning conference](#)

This one day conference will showcase the work of the SLN e-Learning Project. Whether you are currently involved in e-learning or simply want to find out more about emerging technologies, there will be something here of interest to you. This event is free and lunch will be provided. See the full programme and book online at [www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk](http://www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk).



### **Second Life and Moodle**

A virtual presentation from Cetlment Island, the teaching and learning space within Second Life - [www.secondlife.com](http://www.secondlife.com) - which has over 3 million subscribers.

### **Open University i-Skills project - helping students survive online**

How the OU is working to develop and support the necessary ICT and information skills in students who would otherwise struggle to acquire them.

### **OpenLearn (Moodle): open source Virtual Learning Environment**

An introduction to the OpenLearn project and the tools which enable users to form communities of practice using instant messaging and FlashMeeting.

### **OpenLearn LabSpace: re-using generic modules available online**

An introduction to LabSpace as an experimental zone where open content can be downloaded and re-mixed from the OpenLearn website.

### **Compendium**

An exploration of concept mapping, mind mapping, argument mapping and web mapping using the software tool Compendium.

[Fully booked](#)

[April 20: SLN symposium: Foundation Degrees five years on](#)

This event has been organised by the SLN and the Centre for Learning and Teaching at the University of Brighton for all those in Sussex with an interest in Foundation Degrees. Delegates will explore ways in which the discussion can be continued, for example, through research, publication and lunchtime or early evening seminars. This event is now fully booked but we will be publishing a full report on our website – [www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk](http://www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk).

