

iPED 2010: Demonstrating Education Research Impact

The persistent challenge facing Higher Education research is the demonstration of impact as immediate benefits to society and the wider economy.

Innovations and initiatives in teaching and learning take time to bear fruit while much Education research begins as small scale investigations, growing out of the determination of individual lecturers to improve their students' experience and results.

Coventry University's forthcoming iPED 2010 (www.coventry.ac.uk/iPED2010) international conference provides a valuable opportunity for delegates to share insights, receive feedback, develop a critical mass of research papers and explore the relationships between investigations that will result in a long term impact.

One such work in progress is the '*Disparities in Student Attainment*' project whose principal investigators will present a workshop on **Thursday 16 September at iPED 2010 in Coventry University's TechnoCentre.**

The project has grown out of the work of researchers at the University of Wolverhampton, Coventry University, the UK Higher Education Academy, the Equality Challenge Unit and elsewhere.

Over the next two years it will undertake systematic institutional research into the degree attainment gap between Black minority ethnic (BME) students and white students in order to discover ways of closing the attainment gap that will benefit all students to reach their highest potential.

A contrasting presentation from keynote speaker Dr Alis Oancea of the University of Oxford on **Wednesday 15 September** will explore of the effect of the last UK Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008) on Education research (including perceived impacts on Education researchers' work and careers, on departments and research units, and on the field as a whole) and will comment on expectations of the planned Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Her workshop later the same day will invite conference delegates from Australia, Canada, Europe, the Far East, the Middle East, Africa, the USA and the UK to bring their diverse experiences of research assessment into a discussion of the future of research assessment in the UK and internationally.

-Ends-

Further information from, Ali Bushnell, External Press and Media Relations Officer on 024 7688 8245 or conference facilitator, Virginia King, at Coventry University on 07790 714 131 or email v.c.king@coventry.ac.uk

For Editors:

'iPED' (**inquiring pedagogies**) encapsulates the idea of academic learning in a multi-media age.

iPED 2010 www.coventry.ac.uk/iPED2010 is the 5th International Inquiring Pedagogies Conference on the theme of '*Conceptualising Impact: Exploring the effectiveness of practice through pedagogic research*' will be held from **Wednesday 15 - Thursday 16 September 2010 at Coventry University TechnoCentre**, UK.

iPED is an annual education research conference organised by the **iPED Research Network** based at Coventry University www.coventry.ac.uk/iPED. iPED is a collaborative network of and for Education researchers which aspires to overcome the barriers of culture, geography and academic discipline, as well as those of economic and hierarchic status. The iPED conference offers reduced fees for research students and for colleagues from developing countries, thus benefiting from their participation.

Disparities in Student Attainment:

www.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/detail/ntfs/ntfsproject_Wolverhampton10