

1. Ubuntu Network News and Upcoming Events...

Ubuntu Network Steering Committee Meeting

The next Meeting will take place on **September 22nd 2009** from 11:00am – 1.30pm with lunch at end in the School of Education, UCD, Belfield.

Please note our new contact email is ubuntunetwork@ul.ie

Ubuntu Seminar- Understanding film as pedagogical tool for social justice learning

New report *Negative as a Source of Positive- The Use of Film in Development Education*

Key issues discussed include-

1. Theoretical perspectives- theories on reading and interpreting film.... problematising the depiction of development issues in 'Hollywood blockbusters'; issues of representation and power; media ownership; control and censorship
2. Practical issues- classroom tips and techniques, film production and editing.... teaching/learning resources on visual media;
3. Planning for a joint Ubuntu and IDEA capacity building event on film and teaching social justice



Venue-CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit Captain's Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12 . Date- June 5th.
For more details, please see our new webpage- www.ubuntu.ie/film



Dialogue Day 3 was held in NCAD on Feb 12th 2009.

Daniela Tilbury was keynote speaker on the theme of *Learning to Change: Are we up to the challenge?* This was followed by workshops and included an exhibition of artwork by NCAD students and a selection of NGO stalls by Camara, Irish Aid, Amnesty Ireland, CDVEC CDU and Trócaire

For full report, please see our webpage-www.ubuntu.ie/DD3.php

Ubuntu Call for Action Research Proposals – September 2009

The Ubuntu Network will be circulating its annual call for action research proposals on integrating DE/ ESD into post primary ITE institutions during the academic year(s) Sept 2009 - Sept 2010.

If you would like to discuss a proposal or become involved in an existing action research project, please contact [Mags Liddy](mailto:Mags.Liddy@ul.ie), 061 233 289



Irish Aid

Department of Foreign Affairs
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha

2. Upcoming Development Education and Education Conferences ...

Irish Aid Development Studies Conference- hosted by the University of Limerick on October 16-17th 2009. On the theme of Sustainable Global Development. Contact roland.tormey@ul.ie for more

details.

Critical Thinking for Development Education – moving from evaluation to research. Dates: October 3rd and 4th 2009. Venue: National University of Ireland, Galway. Contact clionadh.okeeffe@nuigalway.ie

BERA Annual Conference 2009, 2nd - 5th September 2009. Venue: University of Manchester. See www.beraconference.co.uk

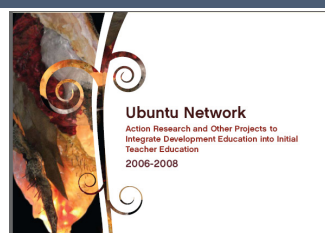
The **European Conference on Educational Research 2009**, Vienna. Conference theme- "Theory and Evidence in European Educational Research. Pre-conference: 25 - 26 September 2009 Main Conference: 28 - 30 September 2009 see www.eera-ecer.eu/ecer/ecer-2009-vienna

3. DE/ESD and Initial Teacher Education - Resources and Publications...

Ubuntu Network e-Book:

Action Research and Other Projects to Integrate Development Education into Initial Teacher Education 2006-2008

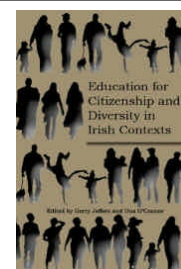
Available from www.ubuntu.ie



New book- Education for Citizenship and Diversity in Irish Contexts.

Edited by Gerry Jeffers and Una O'Connor

More details available from <http://www.ipa.ie/upload/documents/Brochurepic.pdf>



Report on UNESCO World Conference:

The UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development was held in Bonn, Germany, from 31 March to 2 April 2009.

Downloadable from <http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/en/whats-new/news-detail/item/report-on-unesco-world-conference-1.html>



Resources:

T4/Just Forests set of 4 posters in Irish & English are finally on-line. The posters were sponsored by Irish Aid and Concern Worldwide. *T4-Technology Subjects Support Service represents 1200 construction studies and woodwork teachers in Ireland.

If you would like a set for your local school, office, etc, please reply with your postal details. Posters are free.

http://www.justforests.org/wood_of_life/schedule/



Recent Conference Presentations by Ubuntu Members:

Amanda McCloat, St Angela's College. : Reorienting Home Economics Teacher Education to address Education for Sustainable Development NAIRTL conference, November 2008

Mella Cusack, 'The integration of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) into second level initial teacher education (ITE) and continuing professional development (CPD) programmes: Challenges and Opportunities', Consumer Citizenship Network (CCN) conference, Berlin, 23-24 March 2009

Mella Cusack, 'Integrating Education for Sustainable Development into CSPE teacher education programmes: Challenges and Opportunities for Policy and Practice', p Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference, 2-4 April 2009
Kathy Harrison, 'Self and peer assessment: the relevance of assessment development to lifelong learning in a knowledge society', Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference, 2-4 April 2009

Roisin Corcoran, 'Understanding emotional competencies in teacher education' Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference, 2-4 April 2009

Mags Liddy, 'Learning from action research for sustainable development within initial teacher education', Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference, 2-4 April 2009

Amanda McCloat and Helen Maguire, St Angela's College An investigation of pre-service teachers' knowledge, attitudes and behaviour towards ethical and ecological consumerism. 4th International Consumer Sciences Research Conference, Edinburgh. June 2009

Kieran Meagher, Maria Finucane, Limerick School of Art and Design. Art Teachers' Network Conference on Creative Digital Video in the Art and Design Classroom, 27 May 2009.

Nancy L. Serrano, 'Situated cognition and key skills: innovative learning methodologies for life long learning in the post-primary education system', Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference, 2-4 April 2009

4. Action Research Projects- 2008-2009

Exploring ethical dilemma around sustainability for initial teacher education students of Business and Religious Studies

Martin Fitzgerald and Michael Ryan, Tipperary Institute

The aim of this study was to enable students to explore and discuss the ethical concerns that may arise with the teaching of Business and Religious Studies at second level. Through use of the seminar model dialogue and debate was generated and information disseminated. Due to the philosophical polarity that exists between the extreme ends of the business and religious spectrum, this study highlighted many of the conceptual challenges that exist with incorporating DE/ESD into the second level curriculum and culture. This in turn will help to inform practice in post primary ITE however further analysis of the event and the outcomes needs to take place.

A research presentation on this work has been submitted to the European Learner and Teacher Network conference in Slovenia in October 2009.

An Exploration of Development Education in the English Classroom

Carmel Hinchion, University of Limerick

This project was an exploration of Development Education in the English classroom by focusing on appropriate content in language and literature with a Development Education theme. It looked at relevant methodologies which encouraged critical thinking and thoughtfulness as well as collaboration and group work. Students worked on the theme 'Similarities and Differences' in English Pedagogy class and on Teaching Practice placement. They practiced reading, writing, speaking and listening through the lens of thoughtfulness of self and other.

A paper is being prepared for the forthcoming Policy and Practice issue on Development Education in

Action.

Self and Peer Assessment

Kathy Harrison, Dublin City University

The current research examined the effects of self and peer assessment as a sustainable assessment/learning methodology. Three pilot self and peer assessment studies were carried out from September 2008 to May 2009 with cohorts of undergraduate students and second level school. Each study involved the design of an assessment brief, whereby a percentage of the marks was allocated to self and peer assessment. Each cohort was organised into groups, to carry out a team activity which would culminate in a group presentation. The groups were facilitated in conceiving criteria on which to judge a formative assessment. When the results were promulgated, feedback sheets were provided to the students. This was followed up by questionnaires, individual interviews and focus groups and are currently being compiled for transcription and the questionnaires collated for analysis. This research was presented at ESAI and has been submitted to the Irish Aid Conference, October 2009.

Investigating Sustainable Development Themes through new Technological Media

Kieran Meagher, Maria Finucane, Limerick School of Art and Design

Building on last year's work, this year's project centred on the creative use of new technological media to investigate sustainable development themes within the contexts of initial teacher education and curriculum innovation in art and design in second-level schools. The project involved a number of workshops conducted over six days in February-March 2009, with two college tutors and 30 art and design student teachers. These workshops emphasised peer group work, an active issue-based approach to research and creative collaborative methods of enquiry. Five areas were addressed, employing a variety of lens-based digital technologies. Within the context of previous cycles of research work this year's project provided new and valuable insights into student teachers willingness to address challenging issue-based subjects and work as part of a team and embrace creative interdisciplinary methods in their use of new technological media.

This work was presented at Art Teachers' Network Conference on Creative Digital Video in the Art and Design Classroom in May 2009 and will also be on display at the Irish Aid Conference, October 2009.

Embedding Dev' Ed and ESD issues and concepts, into the Art Craft and Design syllabus at post primary level

Tony Murphy and Fiona King, NCAD

Student teachers devised, structured and implemented a series of innovative Art Craft and Design schemes exploring and investigating Dev' Ed and ESD issues and concepts in their teaching practise. A reflective and comprehensive body of visual research, including pertinent resources, stimuli, and a collaborative resolved piece of art work, were produced and presented by each group of student teachers. The work demonstrated an informed group response and visual commentary, examining values and attitudes specific to their chosen ubuntu theme. The resulting work is documented on the NCAD web site at <http://ncadartteachers.blogspot.com/2009/02/head-space-for-pgd-students-as-they.html>

Building on this work, a workshop was devised for Ubuntu Dialogue Day 2009 called The use of artists work as an investigative, analytical and reflective tool, to explore and engage with Dev' Ed and ESD issues and concepts at post primary level.

The integration of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) into Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE) initial teacher education (ITE) and continuing professional development (CPD) programmes: research and curriculum development

Mella Cusack, CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit/Trócaire

The project involved a comparative study between the challenges associated with integration of ESD into Civic, Social and Political Education initial teacher education and continuing professional development settings. The first phase of this project involved the planning, implementation and evaluation of (a) 3 Education for Sustainable Development inputs with student teachers (n=70) taking the elective CSPE modules in the PDGE programmes in NUIG, UCD and the Institute of Technology Tipperary and, (b) a one-day ESD in-service and an evening in-service with practicing CSPE teachers (n=44). The action research element involved the administration of a baseline questionnaire at each of these events and the recording of the experiential learning process through collection of completed worksheets, task outputs and final evaluation sheets. Research findings were subsequently inputted, analysed and presented at ESAI and at CCN Berlin 2009.

Nature of Disciplines and Interdisciplinarity: Implications for the Integration of DE/ESD into subject areas

Technology and ESD: Biology and ESD; Home Economics and ESD.

Roland Tormey, University of Limerick; Deirdre Hogan, University of Limerick; Oliver McGarr, University of Limerick; Amanda McCloat, St Angela's College, Helen Maguire, St Angela's College,

This project explores specific subjects through the lens of three theorists- Bruner and subject culture; Foucault and subject as discourse, and Bernstein and subject boundaries. The chosen data collection is ethnography, essentially developing a familiarity of the daily life world of the chosen subjects. This is constructed through interviews with relevant faculty members, and observations of lectures, labs and tutorials throughout the year. The project provides a strong opportunity for reflection on professional practice, and for collaboration with other subject disciplines.

Developing Intercultural Awareness within the Graduate Diploma in Guidance Counselling

Tom Geary, University of Limerick

This project aims to aid the development of culture-sensitive counsellors (Moodley, 1999) and be able to apply a framework for understanding culture, including their own cultural identity (McLeod, 1998). Intercultural awareness links strongly with core development education skills such as being able to see from someone else's perspective; being able to express one's self and to actively listen to others; and media literacy through a critical attitude towards representations of other cultures. Two workshops were held in November and December 2008 which focused on 'developing cultural awareness and empathy' and 'discrimination and equality'.

Language Pedagogies

Nancy Serrano, University of Limerick

The aim of the project was to enhance the use of active learning with Language pre-service teachers. A short information sheet on development education and readings for the students was prepared including: Irish Aid booklet; UNESCO pamphlets on ESD and teacher education; Ehrenreich article on language teaching and intercultural competence and disseminated to 16 students within the Language group. A smaller group of students engaged in a Language Pedagogy and Development Education Workshop which will be edited into a short film on use of active learning methods. Both the booklet and film will be available from the Ubuntu website

5. Current Opportunities for Publication...

Policy and Practice: A Development Education Journal.

Issue 8: Public Awareness is now available from www.centreforglobaleducation.com

Upcoming issues- Issue 9, on the theme Development Education in Action (Autumn 2009) and Issue 10, on the theme Innovations in Development Education.

Submissions and suggestions for contributors or topics should be sent to Jenna Coriddi, Training and Research Officer: jenna@centreforglobaleducation.com.

Journal of Curriculum Studies Special Call for Submissions "Environment, Curriculum and Education": Submissions should be sent to Alan Reid, University of Bath a.d.reid@bath.ac.uk editor for this strand, which the Journal intends to publish serially over the next couple of years.

Third European Fair on ESD, Hamburg, Germany, 28-30 October 2009

RCE Hamburg and the region are organising the Third European Fair on ESD this year. The theme of the fair is to be Renewable Energy and Climate Change: Thematic Challenges to European Schools and Universities. Contact: Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences walter.leal@ls.haw-hamburg.de

All Our Futures 2. Sustainable Design Conference 15 - 17 September 2009 at the University of Plymouth. Call for papers on ESD strand- deadline July 30th 2009

If you would like further information on any of the items contained within this newsletter, please contact Mags Liddy at the Ubuntu Network office, Department of Education and Professional

Studies, University of Limerick. T: 061 233 289 E: ubuntunetwork@ul.ie

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