

Centre for Research in Lifelong Learning



December 2015

Student Engagement Conference held in September

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IMSH CONFERENCE 2015

CRLL and GCU LEAD hosted a one day conference on Wednesday 9th September 2015 at Glasgow Caledonian University. The theme was **Student Engagement: From Research to Practice**. The conference provided a forum for debate and discussion, and a platform for researchers and professionals engaged in Higher Education to address key areas of international concern.

Keynotes from Professor Bruce Macfarlane, University of Southampton and Dr Alex Buckley, University of Strathclyde stimulated discussion around the theme of Student Engagement.

The Student Radio Station, Radio Caley, were on hand during the day to interview the presenters, take photos and update live tweets during the conference. This was a great learning experience for the students to engage with an external event.



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Research and evaluation of the Advanced Higher Hub

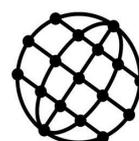
Karen MacFarlane is carrying out research and an evaluation of the impact of the first two years of the Advanced Higher Hub (the Hub) which was established at Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) in 2013 to target S6 pupils from secondary schools in Glasgow which fall within the two lowest quintiles (MD20/MD40) of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. The Hub was funded for two and a half years from the Scottish Funding Council's Strategic Initiative Fund with the aim of providing an immersion and transition programme at GCU. Pupils gain access to a range of Advanced Highers, not necessarily available in school, within a Higher Education (HE) environment, become familiar with the HE learning environment, which in turn would encourage progression to university and, furthermore, help with progression and retention of these pupils once they have entered HE. Karen's work provides the background and context for the establishment of the Hub, including its aims and objectives, sets out the model for evaluation of the Hub, describes the methodology and research tools used to evaluate the Hub and provides evidence of its impact after its first two years in existence. Evidence of the impact of the Hub is provided via an analysis of both qualitative data gathered via interviews with key participants and quantitative data collected by the Hub team and statistics provided by Glasgow City Council.

Students in transition: a lifecycle approach in Scottish Higher Education.

Along with colleagues in GCU LEAD, Karen has also been working on research for the Higher Education Academy. 'Students in transition: a lifecycle approach in Scottish Higher Education. A review of research, policy and practice' explores transition definitions and interpretations in literature and policy and the impact on sector and institutional practice.

GCU Current Research Projects

Julie Brown continues to work on her current institutional research project 'Exploring the taught postgraduate student experience at GCU'. This research has now been completed and it is anticipated that the findings and recommendations of this research will be shared across the university early in 2016.



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History of Education Society Annual Conference 2015 – Liverpool Hope University (Creative Campus)

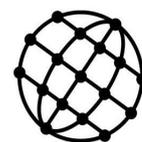
The annual conference for the History of Education Society was held at Liverpool Hope University's Creative Campus between the 20th-22nd of November. Caroline Torres, PhD student with CRLI attended the conference. The conference's theme, Science, Technologies and Material Culture in the History of Education, attracted a wealth of researchers from different fields. Nevertheless, the conference reflected wider themes within the history of education and pedagogical study as a whole. The diverse nature of the conference is evidence of how researchers' understanding of education and its associated processes are being redefined and redrawn through new academic studies. While some might argue that the history of education is still struggling to establish its identity as a specialism within the larger disciplines of history and educational sociology, the conference successfully served as an inter-disciplinary platform from which researchers from varying academic and geographical backgrounds could meet and exchange ideas pertinent to the study of educational development. In the process it not only highlighted the value of the studying educational history but of those that are just coming into the field.

Julie Brown presents at HEIR conference

Julie Brown recently attended the 8th Higher Education Institutional Research (HEIR) conference at the University of the West of Scotland. The theme for this conference was *The Stories We Tell: Using institutional research to enhance policy, practice and engagement*. Julie presented her findings from the flexible learning pathways project.

Professor Anna Jones visiting Scholar to King's College London

Anna has been working with colleagues at King's College London on the Masters in Clinical Education. This is a very exciting programme that encourages clinicians to think very seriously about their teaching and to consider the fundamentals of pedagogic theory and its application to their clinical practice.



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SRHE Member Research Award 2015

'Anna Jones from CRL and Dr Judy Pate from Glasgow University have been successful in gaining an SRHE research award for their project 'Student Perception of Graduate Attributes: A Signalling Theory Perspective'. This study seeks to consider: 'how students' conceptualise graduate attributes and to what extent their interpretations are influenced by a range of stakeholders. The objectives of the study are to understand the student perspective(s) on graduate attributes, employability and other associated terms and to explore the signs and cues that influences their conceptualisation and also the sources of these messages.

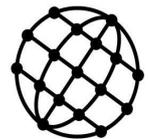


Julie Brown presents at SRHE Conference 2015

Julie Brown presented a paper entitled 'Closing the Research, Policy and Practice Gap? A reflective view' at the Society for Research in Higher Education (SRHE) conference at Celtic Manor, Wales on 9-11 December.

Julie Brown published in Journal of Further and Higher Education

Julie Brown, researcher at CRL, has recently published a paper in the Journal of Further and Higher Education. The article presents an overview of the findings of a study exploring the potentially transformative impact upon learners of recognition of prior informal learning (RPL).



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The Centre was established in 1999 as a joint enterprise between Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and the University of Stirling.

Since its inception, CROLL has sought to develop and maintain an infrastructure for the promotion and support of research in the field of lifelong learning that transcends disciplinary, institutional, sectoral and national boundaries. It has built an international reputation for its contribution to the research base, providing not just analysis of key issues and problems, but interpretation and contribution to policy and practice.

CROLL joins GCU LEAD

CROLL is now under the auspices of [GCU LEAD](#) (Centre for Learning Enhancement and Academic Development). We have relocated as part of the Heart of Campus project and are all located in the same building, further enhancing our relationship with the GCU LEAD team.

We're on twitter!
[@crolltweet](https://twitter.com/crolltweet)

Louise Drumm presents at European E-Learning Conference

Louise presented her doctoral research at the European E-learning Conference in October in Hatfield and had a paper published in the conference proceedings. In December she will be presenting her work at the SRHE's Newer Researcher conference in Newport Wales. [Read the article here.](#)

Professor Anna Jones at IMSH conference in California

Anna Jones will be attending the International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH) conference in San Diego in January. She will be presenting three papers on medical education projects including evaluation of learning and teaching in clinical contexts, the use of arts-based techniques in simulation in healthcare and using simulation with school-aged children.