

Online Communities for Educators

Professor Marilyn Leask and Annika Coughlin
Faculty of Education, Sport and Tourism

About us



- Professor Marilyn Leask, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Sport and Tourism. Instrumental in establishing [TeacherNet](#), the [European SchoolNet](#), the [Teacher Training Resource Bank](#), [Communities for Public Service](#) and [Education Communities](#).
- Annika Coughlin, Research Assistant, Faculty of Education, Sport and Tourism. Background in Sociology and Social Research. Experienced online moderator/facilitator.

New ways of working



- Evidence of impact
- Scale-up small scale research
- International collaborations
- Collaborations between policy makers, practitioner researchers and academic researchers
- Practitioner access to research
- User engagement at all stages of the research process

‘Making Online Collaboration Work’



Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) workshop

- 18 March 2011, Paris
- Delegates from many sectors invited
- **Workshop objectives**
 - Learn from leaders of successful collaborative sites/online communities.
 - Develop scenarios for the future design and sustainability of OECD’s educationtoday.
 - www.oecd.org/edu/educationtoday

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) workshop



- [GovLoop](#) Facebook for Government employees in the USA
- [Engage for Education](#) Scottish Government
- [The Connected Republic](#) – a community space, initiated by CISCO, where people interested in public sector transformation meet and share ideas
- [AllOurIdeas](#) – an international Ideas Marketplace
- [DMG-Network](#) – Internet Network Development
- [World Bank](#) – Knowledge Management Officer
- [GovDelivery UK](#) – provider of government-to-citizen communication solutions
- [UNESCO](#) – Education for All – Global Monitoring Report Team

Background to the Education Communities



- www.educationcommunities.org is a web 2.0 professional networking platform
- Based on the award winning online community for those involved in public service www.communities.idea.gov.uk (established 2005, 80,000 members and 1,500 communities)
- We want to create a successful network for anyone involved in educational research from any discipline and any sector
- This online platform can help support national and international collaborations

Purpose



- Encourage the development and sharing of new ideas and strategies
- Enable people to connect locally, nationally and globally to run joint research projects
- Support faster problem solving
- Cut down on the duplication of effort
- Provide potentially endless access to expertise

Current use of Education Communities



- Not just knowledge exchange or benchmarking as for local government communities
- Writing collaborative articles and books – no need to communicate via email and lose documents
- Networking
- Research groups
- Project management
- People finder for expertise and project partners
- Self organising networks

Email Password

Welcome to the Education Communities

Connecting educators internationally to share, build and find research and evidence about effective educational practice.

These communities are available to support global partnerships, co-research and collaborative networks for innovative educators at every level, engaged in improving the quality of education in every context. This platform is currently being developed, however, members will be able to join communities, create their own and invite people to join projects and work with them.

This collaborative platform is based on the double award winning LGID communities of practice.

If you are interested in being involved in this development please contact both marilyn.leask@beds.ac.uk and sarah.jones@core-ed.org.uk

This initiative is being supported by the University of Bedfordshire, Core Education, LGID and Brunel University.

[Find out more](#)



Register and become a member today.

[Register](#)

Communities

New **Featured** Most active

[Managing resources](#)
Started: Oct 2010 | 8 members

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Contributions last month: 17

This is an open developmental community for those interested in debating, developing and testing models for scaling up promising small scale research and educational research approaches which can support Research Informed Practice in the education sector.

[Research network for teacher educators \(RN4TE\): Network management](#)

Started: Sep 2010 | [7 members](#)

[2 sub-communities](#)

Lead organisation: **University of Bedfordshire**

Lead facilitator: [Paula Zwozdiak-Myers](#)

Contributions last month: 4

The goal of this network is to support collaborative research between teacher educators in schools, universities and other organisations, strengthening the professional knowledge and evidence base which underpins educational policy, practices and processes. Participation as co-researchers is invited in the networks projects listed on the site however each research project will be seeking to create representative samples for the research project eg only one country partner per project may be selected in some cases.

[Lesson planning Research Project Sept10 to August 2011 \(an RN4TE project\)](#)

Started: Aug 2010 | [9 members](#)

Lead organisation: **University of Bedfordshire**

Lead facilitator: [Annika Coughlin](#)

Contributions last month: 31

Educators interested in being involved in a research project on lesson planning are invited to join this community. The research is being led by Professor Susan Capel, Brunel University and Professor Marilyn Leask, University of Bedfordshire to underpin the advice on lesson planning to be published in 'Learning to Teach in the Secondary School: a companion for school experience' 6th Edition, Routledge.

[Reflective practice for professional development \(a RN4TE research project\)](#)

Started: Sep 2010 | [5 members](#)

Lead organisation: **Brunel University**

Lead facilitator: [Paula Zwozdiak-Myers](#)

Contributions last month: 2

Reflective practice is central to the professional development of all teachers in maximising the learning potential of all young people. In this community we are creating learning pathways to operationalise and evaluate an innovative model which captures dimensions of reflective practice.

[Teacher Education Futures](#)

Started: Oct 2010 | [9 members](#)

Lead organisation: **University of Technology, Sydney**

Lead facilitator: [Sandy Schuck](#)

Contributions last month: 3

This is a private international community developing scenarios about teacher education futures. We hope to present initial papers at the CAL conference in Manchester in April 2011, the OMHE OECD conference in 2012, and a book in 2013 Email sandy.schuck@uts.edu.au to receive updates.

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+ Large scale datasets in education - a community for researchers: COMMUNITY	8 members
+ Researching the 'Creative Curriculum': RESEARCH PROJECTS	6 members
+ Physical Education Practitioner Research: NETWORK	8 members
+ Younie & Leask current books & articles:PUBLICATIONS	3 members
+ Transition: NETWORK	18 members
+ UCET Collaborative Research Network: NETWORK	11 members

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First name

Last name

Job title

Organisation

Keywords (Use commas to separate)

Expertise areas (Use commas to separate)

Country

Find matching people

Find people by expertise

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- assessment | change management |
- community | creativity |
- design and technology |
- design of learning | e-learning |
- education - children |
- educational research** |
- educational research icts | elearning |
- english language & literature |
- evaluation | higher education | ict |
- information literacy | innovation |
- leadership | mobile learning |
- online communities | online learning |
- participatory methodologies |



TEMPUS 4 Russia bid - BID

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TEMPUS 4 Russia bid - BID

TBC

Latest forum posts

Collaborate with other community members.



[Application has been submitted](#)
19 Feb 2011 09:28 | Natasa Urbancikova

[URGENT: 10% contribution](#)
15 Feb 2011 09:15 | Natasa Urbancikova

[URGENT: equipment](#)
15 Feb 2011 09:11 | Natasa Urbancikova

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[E-form template for your information](#)
31 Jan 2011 | eform_tempus_2011_en.pdf

[How to complete the e-form](#)

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[Communications](#)
15 Jan 2011 | Petia Petrova

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Research bid application €1.5million, 10 partners, 5 countries



- “We could exchange documents, ask questions, seek contributions, have discussions as well as use the blog facility where I, as lead partner could keep all updated. The research office were registered as well as administrators in the partner countries, so the bid was visible to all parties involved. There were over 20 people involved in putting the bid together, I wouldn't have been able to keep track and know what everyone has been sent. When people put profile pictures up it was useful. I will use the community space again to manage the project if we win the bid.”

Lecturer, University of Bedfordshire

How does it differ?



- LinkedIn
- Discussion groups/forums
- Google Docs
- Blogs
- Facebook
- Twitter

All have different purposes and functions

Would you like to know more?



- Register and explore
- Become a partner
- Register for our Facilitator workshop led by Sarah Jones from [Core Education](#) Two workshops, one in June and one in September.
- Contact annika.coughlin@beds.ac.uk for further information

Communities

 New Featured **Most active**

Management for the Education Communities

Started: Aug 2010 | 6 members

For managing the communities

ARTICLE: Assessing University Research: a critique of purposes and criteria from three countries

Started: Oct 2010 | 4 members

This is a private community for three people from Australia, New Zealand and the UK who are working on a paper reviewing the research assessment frameworks in each country.

Lesson planning Research Project Sept10 to August 2011 (an RN4TE project)

Started: Aug 2010 | 8 members

Educators interested in being involved in a research project on lesson planning are invited to join this community. The research is being led by Professor Susan Capel, Brunel University and Professor Marilyn Leask, University of Bedfordshire to underpin the advice on lesson planning to be published in 'Learning to Teach in the Secondary School: a companion for school experience' 6th Edition, Routledge.

Research Informed Practice in Education - using Translational Educational Research methods

Started: Oct 2010 | 9 members

This is an open developmental community for those interested in debating, developing and testing models for scaling up promising small scale research and educational research approaches which can support Research Informed Practice in the education sector.

Education in a Changing Environment

Started: Oct 2010 | 3 members

This is the community space to create the paper for Education in a Changing Environment: Creativity and Engagement in Higher Education Conference on 6th - 8th July 2011 at Salford

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ARTICLE: Assessing University Research: a critique of purposes and criteria from three countries 4 members

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to add	Library item	18 Oct 2010
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9. References and URLs and 10. Annotated References to the History of national assessments of university research	Wiki	18 Oct 2010
2. Introduction and 3. Purposes 4. History and current position in each country	Wiki	18 Oct 2010
Title, Structure of the article and possible places for publication	Wiki	18 Oct 2010
11. Annex 1: A framework for self assessment by university faculties in the UK.	Wiki	18 Oct 2010

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Professor | University of Canterbury



[Sarah Jones](#)
Director | Core Education UK Ltd

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Lesson planning Research Project Sept10 to August 2011 (an RN4TE project)

Educators from around the world interested in being co-researchers in a research project on lesson planning are invited to join this community. The research is being led by Professor Susan Capel, Brunel University and Professor Marilyn Leask, University of Bedfordshire to underpin the advice on lesson planning to be published in 'Learning to Teach in the Secondary School: a companion for school experience' 6th Edition, Routledge.

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About the Education Communities
This is a collaborative platform supporting global partnerships, co-research and collaborative networks for innovative educators at every level, engaged in improving the quality of education in every context.

Community activity

Member visits last month: 5
Total contributions last month: 31

MEMBERS
7

Who to contact ?

Lead organisation: **University of Bedfordshire**
Lead facilitator: [Annika Coughlin](#)

Tag cloud of items in this community

Collaborate with other community members.



[Why do we plan? Overplanning? How much planning is needed](#)

14 Oct 2010 12:06 | Annika Coughlin

[Weclome and Introductions](#)

12 Oct 2010 10:56 | Sarah Jones

[General Discussions and Notices](#)

29 Sep 2010 11:52 | Sarah Jones

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New members

Please give a warm welcome to the latest members.



[Mark Blomley](#)

Student Teacher | University of Bedfordshire

[Jono Cox](#)

PGCE Pupil | University of Bedfordshire

[Nabi Bux Jumani](#)

Professor | International Islamic University Pakistan

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[Rationale and Methodology](#)

20 Oct 2010 19:10

[Project Development tasks and person responsible](#)

20 Oct 2010 19:10

[Questionnaire - draft notes](#)

14 Oct 2010 11:10

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[Kinetic Typography](#)

13 Oct 2010 | Sarah Jones

[Research Day at Westminster](#)

29 Sep 2010 | Sarah Jones

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and, if so, how and why.

Purpose

It is important to find out more about how student teachers plan lessons and use lesson plans in their teaching in order to better support student teachers in their planning and delivery of lessons and also to ensure that they do not restrict their views of teaching and learning and learning to teach. The following research questions are addressed in this study:

Is lesson planning influenced by student teachers background?

What is expected of student teachers in planning lessons on their course?

How do student teachers write lesson plans? What process do they follow?

How do student teachers use lesson plans in their teaching? Do the objectives/learning outcomes inform the rest of the lesson plan?

This study should enable to following questions to be followed up in future studies to look at the quality of lesson plans, i.e.

Are lesson plans developmental within a unit and across years?

What is the quality and type of objectives in lesson planning

Do lesson plans constrict or support quality teaching?

As well as:

Does lesson planning change over time?

Method

Sample

The sample will comprise student teachers learning to teach in primary and secondary schools and in further education colleges in different subjects (to be decided, according to the specific sample, e.g. home language, science, PE) and in different countries (e.g. Australia, Belarus, Czech Republic, , Germany, Malawi, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Spain, , Sweden, UK, US).

The sample selected will be based on a network of teacher educators supplying background information about lesson plans they use and how they instruct student teachers in the use of lesson plans. These teacher educators will be asked to ask current student teachers to complete the questionnaire (as an e-survey) and then to undertake the interviews.

Instrument and procedures

Phase 1 Pilot: Nov/Dec with Bedfordshire students? Proposed partners: Aus, UK, Pakistan

Phase 2 Full study: e-survey - March/April 2011

Phase 3 Follow up study: with newly qualified teachers and experienced teachers - May/June 2011?

Student teachers will be asked to complete a questionnaire survey with a sample selected from student teachers who volunteer to participate in an interview.

The following documentation will also be collected:

- lesson plan outlines/models, completed and annotated lesson plans – from student teachers (and later from newly qualified teachers and mentors in schools).

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ARTICLE: Assessing University Research: a critique of purposes and criteria from countries

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Wiki


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9. References and ORCs and 10. Annotated References to the History of national assessments of university research	18 Oct 2010 (24:48)	Marilyn Leask
2. Introduction and 3. Purposes 4. History and current position in each country	18 Oct 2010 (24:46)	Marilyn Leask
Title, Structure of the article and possible places for publication	18 Oct 2010 (24:06)	Marilyn Leask
11. Annex 1: A framework for self assessment by university faculties in the UK.	18 Oct 2010 (24:04)	Marilyn Leask
5 The Criteria for excellence	17 Oct 2010 (23:28)	Marilyn Leask
6) unintended consequences 7) discussion 8) Conclusions	17 Oct 2010 (23:11)	Marilyn Leask
1. Abstract	17 Oct 2010 (21:45)	Marilyn Leask

page 1 of 1

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ARTICLE: Assessing University Research: a critique of purposes and criteria from three countries

Hi folks,

This is where on the wikis we will write the different elements of our paper. The goal is to publish with [Educational Philosophy and Theory](#), editor Michael Peters and this is first choice probably more for the RIPE work and translational research [international journal of education for teaching](#), editor Peter Gilroy

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New members

Please give a warm welcome to the latest members.



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Professor | University of Canterbury

[Sarah Jones](#)
Director | Core Education UK Ltd

[Annika Coughlin](#)
Research Assistant | University of Bedfordshire of Bedfordshire

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