

**Higher Education & Further Education National Conference 2009**  
*Strategic Priorities & Managing Risk for 2010*  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Queens Hotel, Leeds



## **Keynote Biographies**

### **John Widdowson The Future of HE in FE**

John Widdowson joined New College Durham as Principal and Chief Executive in August 1998. He began his career as a lawyer in local government after which he held a series of teaching posts in Derbyshire and East Anglia. Before joining New College Durham, he was Vice Principal at Cambridge Regional College. New College Durham is a Mixed Economy College, and as such the College is a significant provider of full and part time vocational further and higher education in the county and the region.

The College works in partnership with a number of schools both within and outside County Durham and is actively developing with them a range of innovative approaches to the 14-19 curriculum. John is Chair of Aimhigher County Durham, part of the national Aimhigher network which exists to encourage greater participation in Higher Education. Nationally, he is Chair of the Mixed Economy Group of colleges, which represents those colleges offering significant amounts of Higher Education. John is also a Board Member of the Association of Colleges and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

### **David Jenkins The Case for Strategic Collaboration**

David Jenkins joined Staffordshire University in 2000 where he is Director of Educational Partnerships, having responsibility for the strategic direction and day to day management of Staffordshire University Regional Federation (SURF). This is a HE in FE consortium that includes Staffordshire University as the lead institution, the nine FE/Sixth Form Colleges in Staffordshire and two of Shropshire's FE colleges. Other responsibilities include: Co-ordinating Staffordshire University's collaborations with all overseas partners and other UK Partnerships including:- National Design Academy, Oasis College, The Centre for Youth Ministry and The Working Manager. David is involved in a number of national roles with QAA (Quality Assurance Agency), HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) and HE/FE partnerships. He is an Executive member of the Association of Collaborative Provision of HE in FE in England (ACP) and in addition was instrumental in setting up the Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Lifelong Learning Network (LLN) and is also involved in Staffordshire's Aimhigher programme. David runs a small publishing company specialising in the reprinting of Wisden Cricketers' Almanacks – the perfect antidote to working in Education!

### **Charlie Woodcock The Future of University in a Knowledge Economy**

Charlie has over 25 years experience as a Senior Manager in both Further and Higher Education and as a Senior Project Manager for the Learning and Skills Council. He has been successful at obtaining competitive funding for a significant number of HE and FE projects. Whilst working at the University of Chester he has secured over £12M in capital and revenue funding and secured 1200 ASNs. This has included a New Technology Initiative, Cheshire & Warrington Lifelong Learning Network (LLN) and more recently an Employer Engagement Project in two phases.

He is currently based at the University of Chester as Associate Dean/Executive Director and at present he is a member of several groups developing and delivering National Initiatives, and has played a significant role in the National Forum of the Lifelong Learning Networks. He chairs the Employer Engagement Work strand for the National Forum.

More recently he has been active on a HEFCE 'Think Tank' for brokerage and is a consultant for HEA on Employer Engagement.

## Facilitator and Presenter Biographies

**Mal Buckland, EIAT/QAA/UCL**

### **Workshop 1 - Strategic Management**

#### **Facilitator & Case study 1 *Risk Management in Development HE in FE***

A graduate of Design Communication and Art History at St. Martin's School of Art London and the University of Manchester, Maldwyn has extensive experience of managing HE in FE within a range of institutions in the FE sector. Previous roles have been at both middle and senior management as Vice Principal and HE Development Manager, complemented by engagement with external bodies including the Mixed Economy Group (MEG), Greater Manchester Strategic Alliance (GMSA), Council for Validating Universities (CVU) and the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). He has undertaken a series of External Examiner roles, most notably for the Royal College of Art London and the University of Sheffield and recently has been a regular external validation panel member for University of the West of England (UWE). In addition, he has previously assisted the HE Academy with their work in developing approaches to the strategic management of HE in FE colleges. Currently Maldwyn works for both the Lancashire Lifelong Learning Network in the role of Education Consultant based at the University of Central Lancashire and the EIAT Consultancy organisation as Strategic Development Associate. In addition to these roles he also works for the QAA and is involved in the current round of Integrated Quality Enhancement Reviews (IQER).

**Dr. Margaret Johnson, New College Durham Director of Curriculum (HE Developments)**

### **Workshop 1 - Case study 2 *Foundation Degree Awarding Powers***

Margaret Johnson is Director of Curriculum (HE Developments) at New College Durham and has over 30 years experience of HE in an FE college. She originally trained as a Podiatrist and was one of two staff appointed to start the Durham School of Podiatric Medicine, based at New College, in 1975. She completed a PhD at Newcastle University Medical School in 1981. During her time at New College she has been the Head of School for Health, Early Years and Social Studies which housed Honours degrees in Social Work, Podiatry and Podiatric Medicine. As Assistant Director she was responsible for four schools within the college with the largest proportion of higher education across the college based in two of those schools. Latterly as Director she has taken responsibility for the development of higher education managed by the HE unit within the college.

**Jane Davis, Director of Learning: Higher Education, Colchester Institute**

### **Workshop 2 - Curriculum Development (Facilitator)**

Jane is a member of the Senior Leadership and Management Team at Colchester Institute, having joined the College in this post in 2004 and had strategic responsibility of higher education across the college. The College has settled into its partnership with the University of Essex, participated in the pilot round of IQER and been working proactively to enhance the range and quality of its provision through HE Practitioners Activity, Thematic Reviews and developmental initiatives such as the Moodle Project and the Research and Scholarly Activity Policy. Jane represents Colchester Institute at meetings of the Mixed Economy Group and is a member of the Executive Committees of both the Council of Validating Universities and the Association for Collaborative Providers. She is a member of the AoC HE in FE Quality Group and participates as a member of IQER review teams. Jane's academic discipline is Technology Enhanced Learning and she is studying as a part-time student on a Doctoral programme at Lancaster University.

**Dr Colin Hankinson, Director of 14 -19 and Academy Development, University of Chester**

### **Workshop 2 - Case study 1 *'Bricks & Mortar' as a sustainable progression in to HE***

Dr Colin Hankinson has had 20 years teaching and leadership experience in FE and HE including 10 years in a number of Secondary schools including senior manager Teaching and Learning in an East London Comprehensive. He is published in the area of personalised learning and served as a Director of the International learning Styles Network. Colin is a strong supporter of the value of cooperation

between educational institutions for the enhancement of teaching and learning and is leading the University of Chester's Academy Sponsorship initiative which at this time involves the University as lead sponsor of two Academies and the co-sponsor of one, with the aim of developing a Federation of between five and ten Academies over the next few years. He has worked closely with Secondary Head teachers from Chester and Warrington on a pilot project to develop University of Chester 'Footprints' in secondary schools. Colin is also the University lead working together with the Warrington 14-19 Partnership in building the first purpose built Diploma Learning Zone in the UK. This will be a significant resource for Diploma students in the area and a focus for inter school cooperation throughout Warrington and will be considered as a potential delivery model nationally.

## **Raeleen Duthoit, Project Co-ordinator - Lancashire Work Based Learning Forum**

### **Workshop 2 - Case study 2 Apprenticeship Progression into HE**

The Lancashire Work Based Learning Executive Forum (LWBLEF) was set up in October 2005 in response to the LSC's Agenda for Change strategy. Raeleen joined the company from its inception as Support & Development Manager and along with the Board of Directors and member companies set up the operating structure. The Forum is made up of over 20 well established, tried and tested WBL Training providers delivering in a range of sectors. Raeleen coordinates the network of members and facilitates collaborative working. Raeleen supports the members to enable them to provide the highest quality of Work Based Learning opportunities to young people and adults within the workforce to the benefit of employers and the wider society in Lancashire. The Forum's intention is to establish Work Based Learning as a valid and recognised route of choice into HE or career progression. Raeleen has been involved with Apprenticeships for a number of years and was originally employed by the Training and Enterprise Council in Lancashire on the Development team to market and promote Apprenticeships and increase employer engagement in Lancashire. Raeleen moved over to the Learning and Skills Council as a contract manager when the TECs closed.

## **Ian Welch, QAA Assistant Director IQER**

### **Workshop 3 - Quality and Standards (Facilitator)**

BA, MA Fine Art. Taught Art and Design in various colleges, QAA reviewer. Managed Art, Design, Media, Performing arts, Photography, Access and numerous other things before becoming Director with responsibility of HE at Filton College in Bristol. In 2006 moved to QAA as Assistant director with responsibility for coordination of IQER.

## **Joanna Moon MA, MBA**

### **Workshop 3 - Case Study 1 Placement, Work-Based Learning and the Development of Assessment**

Joanna Moon has been a lecturer in HE for 20 years. As principal lecturer, she managed the placement activities and work-based learning in a large faculty at Leeds Metropolitan University. Part of the placement role was the mentoring of students in organisations and deploying colleagues as mentors. She developed the assessment for placement and work-based learning, based on personal development planning (PDP), learning logs and reflective practice. She currently teaches PDP to management students and work-based learning at the Open University. She supervises, by email, a number of professional managers in their work-based practice dissertations. She is also an executive coach, qualified in the British Psychological Society levels A & B certificates in occupational testing, including MBTI steps I & II and has great belief in the coaching approach to support work-based learning. Jo is a member of the Association for Coaching, the Chartered Institute of Marketing (she is an examiner on their postgraduate professional diploma) and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

## **Madeleine King, AOC, HE in FE Policy Manager**

### **Workshop 4 - Case study 1 Scholarly Activity and the Mixed Economy Group of Colleges**

Madeleine is a professionally-qualified Careers Officer who moved into Local Authority administration, where she worked as an Education Officer in a number of Local Education Authorities. In 2002, she was seconded from her post as the Head of Education Strategic Planning and Lifelong Learning to the national office of the Learning and Skills Council, where she established the LSC's Higher

Education team. She worked with colleagues in the (then) DFES and HEFCE to develop the Aimhigher initiative and Lifelong Learning Networks and when her secondment ended, decided to remain in the FE/HE world rather than return to school-based administration. She subsequently worked as a freelance consultant on a number of research projects before joining the Association of Colleges as their HE Policy Manager in August of this year.

### **Ian Lindsay, former Academic Advisor for the Higher Education Academy**

#### **Workshop 4 - Case study 2 Securing Funding to Support Scholarly Activity**

Ian Lindsay trained as an engineer with an international sporting goods manufacturer, studying part-time for both his Degree in Production Engineering and Masters in Information Systems. Since entering education (studying in-service for a PGCE), he has been a lecturer, course leader and programme manager prior to becoming the Higher Education Academy's Academic Advisor for HE in FE. He is now an independent educational consultant specialising in strategic support, staff development and operational assistance for further education colleges.