



CUTTING EDGE

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Welcome to this year's third issue of *Cutting Edge* - Edge Hill's institutional research newsletter which is issued three times a year in March, July and November.

The Research Office.

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RESEARCH UPDATE

POLICY ISSUES FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IN SPORT

Mike Hartill (of Sport & PE) and **Phil Prescott** (of the Centre for Studies in the Social Sciences) have recently completed an evaluation of the Rugby League's child protection policy. They have summarised their results for *Cutting Edge*.

The abuse of children has only relatively recently been recognized as a serious problem for sport and it has rarely been seen as a legitimate topic for discussion (Brackenridge, 2001). The recent establishment of a Child Protection in Sport Unit by 'Sport England' is evidence of an increasing concern with the problem.

Sport's efforts to safeguard children, under the direction of Sport England (UK Sport), have led to the development of policies within individual sports. A range of issues relating to child protection policies in sport arose from the findings of a recent research initiative undertaken by the authors, which focused on the implementation of Rugby League's pilot child protection policy through the development of volunteer child protection officers. The British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA) and the NSPCC had developed the policy.

Three strands of concern arose out of the pilot study:

- limited awareness and understanding of the reality of child abuse;
- lack of a 'child-centred' perspective;
- problems with procedure and process

The research demonstrated an overwhelming adult expectation of false allegations by children and a very limited awareness of the difficulties of the disclosure process for them. Reductionist approaches to the seriousness of child abuse in sport were evident when claims were made, by a significant number of the volunteer child protection officers, for the highly unlikely incidence of abuse in "our sport". There were clear assumptions made that child abuse had not happened in the past neither in this sport nor within the officers' particular club, and would not be likely to occur in the future. The policy was in danger of being constructed as a form of adult protection from false allegation rather than one of protecting children from abusive adults. This appeared to turn the philosophy of the initiative on its head. Within the clubs, known adults were seen to be intrinsically trustworthy and responsible. This assumption concerning 'safe adults' is challenged by contemporary research (Brackenridge, 2001).

Cascading a summarized version of the Rugby League's child protection policy seemed to be the preferred method of dissemination. There was evidence that it was 'relegated' to an 'any other business' item within club meetings: a situation of concern where child protection officers became self-appointed gatekeepers of knowledge about the child protection policy. Such exclusionary practice is not conducive to the full ownership of the policy, nor its implementation by all stakeholders.

Some of the club child protection officers had been assigned their role by default – as a corollary to their existing roles as coach, committee member, chairperson etc. The question of balancing priorities certainly raised its head with an emphasis on the fulfilment of an obligation to the sport's governing body, rather than on obligations to children.

Overall the research highlighted some important issues. In terms of the delivery of the rugby league's child protection policy, both monitoring and evaluation were completely absent. The research also revealed many positive outcomes including the expressed dedication of all those concerned to provide a healthy environment for children to participate in Rugby League. Goodwill on the part of all the volunteer child protection officers and the paid officials was abundant. However, goodwill does not guarantee appropriate implementation if proper structures are not in place to support the policy and there remains the concern that child protection will not be prioritised in sport's status and performance driven agenda (Volkwein et al, 1997).

Interestingly, Social Services Departments were absent from this early developmental stage of such a policy. An important question seems to be whether social services departments ought to be directly involved in issues of child protection training and policy implementation in sport. The research raised the question whether there should be a designated social services officer from local departments who is formally and directly linked to either individual sports or, indeed, individual local clubs.

Alliances must be forged with children first rather than with adults. The research would seem to suggest that, before a broader vision of sport's role in the safeguarding of children can be constructed, a more immediate self-reflection has to take place concerning the monitoring and evaluation of child protection policies, the effectiveness of current training, and the role of social services departments in this context.

Brackenridge, C. (2001) *Spoil Sports: Understanding and Preventing Sexual Exploitation in Sport*. London: Routledge.

Volkwein, K.A.E., Schnell, F.I., Sherwood, D. and Livezey, A. (1997) 'Sexual harassment in sport' in *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, 32(3), 283 – 295.

The Woman Question: Then and Now Conference Edge Hill College, 24-25th July 2003

In July, Edge Hill staff hosted and organised this important conference. Here, two of our English Department's research students, **Pat Todd** and **Louise Craddock**, give us an extended review of proceedings.

The first day began at ten with registration and refreshments, giving everyone the opportunity to catch up on old and new acquaintances over a cup of coffee. One of the nicest things about attending conferences is the chance to renew contact with colleagues from around the country. It was particularly pleasing to see so many delegates from other parts of the world. Visiting Edge Hill for the first time we welcomed visitors from the U.S.A, Canada and Greece, giving the conference a truly international flavour.

After a brief welcome address, the conference began with the first plenary paper, presented by Ann Heilmann (senior lecturer, University of Wales, Swansea.) The paper was entitled. 'Re-Presenting the New Woman: A Grand Performance' and began with a brief overview of what the 'New Woman' movement consisted of. Using contemporary illustrations, Heilmann focused on the different meanings and representational strategies that cartoonists deployed to reveal, what they saw as, the 'unsexing' or, as the case might be, 'ultra feminine' aspects of the New Woman. The second part of the paper used drawings and illustrations of Sarah Grand, to discuss ways in which New Woman writers constructed themselves and the New Woman through discourses of femininity in order to 'market' feminism to a broad audience of middle-class women. Heilmann specifically focused on the photographs of Sarah Grand which were 'staged' and depicted different aspects of Grand's personal appearance and lifestyle, often concealed within the picture, and how these had been 'staged managed' in order to create the persona of the New Woman.

With the tone of the day now set, the sessions began in earnest. Session 1 consisted of Lorna Huett (Trinity College, Cambridge), Irene Wiltshire (Independent Scholar) and me. Huett's paper discussed the relationship between Elizabeth Gaskell and her publishers, particularly Charles Dickens, and examined the correspondence between them. The first part of the paper looked at misconceptions about Gaskell's meekness in her business dealings with publishers, and the second part concentrated on

the limitations that anonymity imposed on women writers. Irene Wiltshire focused on Gaskell's literary representations of women. She contended that, in her novels, Gaskell depicted a strong single-minded women, unmarried mothers and working women, and that her writings pushed against the boundaries of social expectation. My paper turned to the debate surrounding education and employment prospects for women, by using examples from magazine articles that both supported and opposed change. The assertion was that this debate could be seen as one element within a wider feminist objective to challenge the concept of separate spheres for men and women, which offered the possibility to rethink the role of women in the period.

Session 2 offered papers from Zoe Dunn (Kent University), Lorna Shelley (Manchester Metropolitan) and Annisa Suliman (St. John, York.) Zoe Dunn began with an overview of Geraldine Jewsbury's life and work, followed by a discussion of what she saw as Jewsbury's contradictory theories and ideologies of the 'woman question.' She then discussed ideas about the female reader, author and literary critic, as well as the impact of female roles on the marketplace. Lorna Shelley drew on her research on the *Yellow Book* in order to explore how male and female author/journalists identify the fin de siecle woman as 'sexual' rather than 'political' and how the *Yellow Book* 'manufactured' the sexually insurgent woman in order to sell copies, while dissuading New Woman writers from contributing radical writing which they published in other forms. Annisa Suliman is currently researching Victorian Periodicals and her paper looked at how the periodicals were able to exploit the enormous market of newly literate readers. Given that literary production was predominantly based in the south, she examined the construction of binary oppositions of 'Northern men and women', and argued that the 'northern figure' was used as a vehicle for the exploration of dominant discourses surrounding sexuality and disease in the Victorian era.

Session 3 contained papers by Barbara Tilley (Hilbert College, New York), Angela Kocurek (Sam Houston State University, Texas) and Margaret Forsyth (Edge Hill). Tilley presented a reading of Mona Caird's 'The Wing of Azreal' which offers a compelling image of a male figure, Harry Lancaster, who is both sympathetic to the restrictive positions of women and also acts for women or verbalises his own feminist views. Caird's characterisation was of a new breed of men, argued Tilley, who recognised not only the changing political culture around women, but their own and other men's participation in that culture. The next paper gave a new

perspective of 'The Lady of Shallott'. Kocurek's opinion was that the 'Lady' is more liberated when she is in the tower and that her loss of autonomy and virtue comes after she erringly gives way to feminine weakness and abandons her quarters. Margaret Forsyth's was the last paper in this session entitled 'Of and for the people': Working-class women writers and the woman question' in which she took working-class poet Eliza Cook's work as the starting point to demonstrate that the 'woman question' was not the same for all classes.

After a well-deserved lunch in Sages restaurant, and a short walk in the sunshine, we reconvened for the afternoon sessions. Session 4 was comprised of only two papers, presented by Tracy Rosenberg (Edinburgh University) and Rebecca Cameron (Saskatchewan University, Canada). Rosenberg's paper examined contemporary criticism of the New Woman in fiction in order to determine why some novels, and their authors, were condemned as the antithesis of advancement. Arising out of Darwinian theories that evolution and progress were not synonymous, degeneracy was the manifestation of a fear that society was regressing back to savagery. Rosenberg maintained that the 'Newness' of the New Woman and her kind were therefore seen not necessarily as a pioneering step, but a cause of social decay. Rebecca Cameron was interested in the representations of the 'modern girl' and her relationship to feminism in popular drama. She argued that on stage, young women were often represented as thoroughly emancipated, who spout feminist rhetoric, but that their behaviour often does not match their words. Referring to popular plays, the paper considered the ambivalent effect of making young, fashionable, modern women the voice of feminism.

Session 5 included Lauri Coulombe (Rice University, Texas), Fiona Steele and Helen Wells (Edge Hill). From her study of nineteenth century American literature, and drawing on the work of Judith Butler, Coulombe proposed that gender was consciously 'performed', particularly by women who had to be self-conscious of their image as it played an important part in their marriage ability. She used examples from American fiction to theorise how women may have used mirrors as tools for practicing acts that, as Butler suggested, are necessary for gender to exist at all. The following paper explored representations of women in art, novels and the popular press in Victorian Liverpool. Fiona Steele proposed that, for some, the woman question simply did not exist and that women fell into one or two clearly defined categories – the fallen woman or 'the angel in the house'. The final

paper in this group, from Helen Wells discussed the importance of the female detective in the literature of the period. By comparing a number of texts, she argued that the authors were voicing women's concerns and providing a commentary on their changing roles within society.

The final group in this session was made up of two papers, Simon Morgan, a Research Officer working on the letters of Richard Cobden at the London School of Economics, and Kirk Layton (Mount Royal College, Calgary.) Morgan's paper contended that the notions of a 'female influence' and a pseudo-medieval conception of 'chivalry', actively helped to shape the engagement of women with the public sphere. Arguing that the main debate was not whether women had a place in public, but what the nature and the extent of that place should be. Kirk Layton then discussed how the ideal woman, in the novels of Charles W. Gordon, or the pen-name of Ralph Connor represented his own mother. Calling attention to Gordon/ Connor's opinion that the exclusive role of a Canadian woman was to support the men in her life, he discussed the author's lack of support for the campaign to give women the status of 'persons under the law'. As Gordon/ Connor was also a prominent religious and political leader, it is his influence, Layton suggested, which gives cause for concern.

Delegates then gathered to hear the second plenary paper of the day, given by Judy Giles (Reader in Gender and Cultural Criticism at St. John College, York) entitled 'Good Housekeeping: Feminism and the Housewife' which derives from her research for a forthcoming publication from Berg, *The Parlour and the Suburb: Domestic Identities, Class, Femininity and Modernity* (Jan 2004). Giles argued that feminism had lost its way in the tangled issue of domesticity. She offered a re-assessment of the value of the housewife in her position as homemaker, and suggested that the housewife was feminism's 'Other' and domesticity had been rejected because it did not fit into the emancipatory narrative of second-wave feminism. For Giles, this is a mistake that feminism needs to redress; concluding that women's experiences as homemakers provides a valuable contribution to modern feminism.

After this plenary paper, delegates could spend a few hours relaxing, or in some cases, taking a walk in the gardens. Later, most of the delegates met again for dinner and a glass of wine, before returning to their various lodgings for the night.

Pat Todd

Conference Review: The Woman Question: Then and Now - 24-25th July 2003, Edge Hill College

The first session began early on the Friday morning and picked up where the first day had left off, considering the impact of the woman question on a contemporary setting. I chaired a session with two speakers, since the third was stuck in traffic and battling through the rain, (the ducks on campus were happy if no-one else was!) The first paper, given by film studies lecturer Donna Taylor (King George V College, Southport) explored Alfred Hitchcock's personal relationship with food and his representation of it in his films, particularly through his female characters in *Rebecca* (1940), *Psycho* (1960) and *Frenzy* (1972). Rather than agree with feminist readings of Hitchcock, such as Laura Mulvey (1975) and Tania Modleski (1984), who tend to see the women as 'objects' subjected to the 'male gaze', Taylor argued that more diverse positions could be considered. She drew on Michael Chion's (1999) reference to acousmetre, or 'the hidden body', in order to show that Hitchcock was less concerned with reinforcing misogynistic ideas of femininity than showing through the female body the confusion and fear found in his own obsession with food. As Taylor contends, Hitchcock could explore women's vulnerability, often manifested through the abuse of food, because he identified so strongly with women. An interesting departure from the usual focus on Hitchcock's obsession with the 'cool blonde' in his films, which is being explored in Terry Johnson's new play *Hitchcock Blonde* in the West End at the moment. It seems there is plenty of lively debate surrounding Hitchcock's women yet.

This was followed by a paper entitled 'The Teen Witch Convention in Young Adult Fiction' by the Head of Media and Cultural Studies, Nickianne Moody (Liverpool John Moores University), which derives from wider research for a forthcoming publication. In this paper, Moody was interested in the popularity of the 'teen witch' in young adult fiction and television. She focused on the appeal of the T.V series *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* and compared it to rivals *Charmed* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Moody suggested that *Sabrina* stands out in this comparison because it has similarities with children's fantasy fiction and representations of women in the 1960s and 1970s, especially with regard to the heroine's dilemma: the sacrifice of her career for heterosexual romance, although guidance can be found in female mentors. Here, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is the exception, yet what all the programmes share is a patriarchal framework of rules which govern the young women's lives, whether it manifests itself as a 'book

of shadows' or a predominantly male 'watcher counsel', as Moody maintains, the adolescent empowerment lies in the heroine learning to follow the rules while subverting them. It will be interesting to see the development of this discussion in the colloquium on *Active Heroines* hosted by the ARPF.

Running parallel to this was session 7, with papers from Mark Llewellyn (University of Swansea), Philip Godfrey (Birkbeck College, London) and **Erica Kimber** (Edge Hill.) Mark Llewellyn's paper was entitled 'George Moore, 'John Oliver Hobbes' and the (Anti-) New Woman, ' and provided an examination of the relationship between the two writers. Focusing upon two of Moore's short stories and his (often fictionalised) memoirs, he reassessed both Moore's and Hobbes's troubled relationship with the figure of the New Woman'. Next, Philip Godfrey gave an analysis of the response of Olive Schreiner to Karl Pearson's 'The Woman Question', which he delivered at the inaugural meeting of 'The Men and Women's Club' in 1885. Godfrey explored Pearson's attitude towards friendship and marriage between the sexes, and Schreiner's opposition to this. Erica Kimber presented the last paper in this session, which considered Edward Carpenter's opinions on the changes in the relations between the sexes and the impact these changes were having on the position of men and women in society.

Matthew Stibbe (Sheffield Hallam University) and Lisa Regan (Warwick University) both gave papers in session 8. Matthew's research was focused on a number of pro-Nazi women's groups, which emerged in Germany before 1933. Using new sources, the paper examined the view of two organisations, Deutscher Frauenorder and the Neuland Movement, which sought to offer an alternative vision of the future in which racial elitism and selection by talent would transcend older and newer forms of gender inequality. Lisa Regan's paper addressed two main aspects of Winifred Holtby's defence of the spinster as a single, professional woman in the face of fascist propaganda. Using Holtby's *South Riding* and its spinster protagonist, she suggested that it opens up the idea of the spinster who participates in, but also facilitates, a sense of community that moves beyond the narrow definition of the nuclear family towards a liberal re-working of the fascist concept of the corporative state.

After a quick break for tea, Imelda Whelehan, Professor of English and Women's Studies (De Montfort University, Leicester) gave the final plenary session, 'The Anxiety of Affluence: Having It All in the Age of Chick-lit'. By using Fay

Weldon's novel *Big Women* (1997) as an illustration, Whelehan argued that chick-lit, represented by such writers as Helen Fielding, Jenny Colgan and Adele Parks, owes more to second-wave feminism than the writers would like to admit. Both are youthful and just as second-wave feminists were often accused of forgetting that women had children, chick-lit writers have been under attack from readers and reviewers for the same reason, hence the rise of 'mummy-lit' in the bestsellers charts recently. They also share a tension between singleton freedom and the desire for heterosexual marriage and romance. According to Whelehan, where chick-lit differs from second-wave feminism is in its acknowledgement of the enduring power of capitalism. In many ways the authors themselves are the embodiment of capitalist success when their heroines are not. This means that their heroines are still searching for something – 'having it all' in the age of chick-lit means young women are 'burdened by choices' to quote Whelehan. Her final point is that chick-lit brings us back to the feminist consciousness-raising novels of the 1960s and 1970s and the questions raised in these contemporary novels seems to be along the lines of 'how do we cope with wanting all of these conflicting things at the same time?' which points to the central dilemma of the woman question throughout the centuries.

The last part of the programme, at least in the session I was involved with, went on to develop ideas from Imelda Whelehan's paper, since all examined various aspects of feminism. My paper entitled "'We are operating in an ill-defined sea: The Woman Question in Post-Feminist Fictions'" looked at anxiety surrounding the contemporary woman question, and went on to explore the possibility that feminism is at a cross-roads and chick-lit writers are highlighting this. Jo Knowles' (Independent Scholar) paper, 'The Biological Clock Vs. the Boardroom' questioned the post-feminist dilemma of 'having it all' in relation to what it means in chick-lit novels to have and be a mother. Susan Maushart's *Wifework* was used as a framework to discuss unequal parenthood in these novels. The discussion moved away from chick-lit in Fiona Tolan's (Durham University) paper, in which she contemplated 'The End of Feminism?' along with the 'end of history' thinking and Francis Fukuyama's influential work. Tolan concluded that feminism must confront its claim for individualism if it is to endure. Kristyn Gorton (Leeds Metropolitan University) posed the question, 'Can a feminist be attractive and a feminist?' In her paper, "Feminist Sweepstakes": What's at Stake in Third Wave Feminism? Gorton argued that a younger generation of women are identifying with feminism, which can be seen in Le Tigre's latest album in their chorus: "feminists we're

calling you" and Christine Aguilera's song 'Can't Hold Us Down.' Although both examples of third-wave feminist representations might be seen as the antithesis of second-wave feminism in their preoccupation with image and consumption, Gorton reminds us that they can be considered as images of empowerment. In her linking these images with Conrad Lodziak's rethinking of consumerism, Gorton made a persuasive argument that feminism might use consumerism for political impact.

The alternate final session brought together Maria Vara (Aristotle University, Thessaloniki), **Liz Hare** and **Deborah Chirrey**, both from Edge Hill and Helen Farish (Oxford Brookes University). Maria Vara presented a re-reading of Diane Johnson's *The Shadow Knows*, arguing that almost thirty years after its publication, it operates ambiguously because it accounts for and distorts the gender politics and the narrative technique upheld by 'movement' literature, anticipating the swing of recent feminist theory towards subjectivity and away from the avowals of essence and completeness. Liz Hare's paper, "Whose life is it anyway?" Autobiography and identity in feminist performance' explored current theoretical positions in relation to autobiographical performance, using her own autobiographical work as an example, which she is taking on tour around the country shortly. Deborah Chirrey's paper focused on advice pamphlets that are aimed mainly at young women who are coming out as lesbians either to themselves or others. As a linguist, Chirrey was interested in how the language of the pamphlets is exploited, and how certain stylistic choices made by the writers contribute to the power asymmetries between the text and the reader. Furthermore, she discussed the extent to which advice pamphlets create lesbian 'communities of practice.' Finally, Helen Farrish's paper examined the varying poetic responses to the female body encountered in Louise Glück's *The Deviation*, and Sharon Olds' *When It Comes* and *A Woman In Heat Wiping Herself*.

Unfortunately, the excellent discussions had to come to an end so delegates could make their way home. The multi-disciplinary Woman Question conference at Edge Hill provoked far more questions than it answered and provided interesting links between the centuries. Above all, it was an enjoyable experience to organise and our thanks to all those who attended.

Louise Craddock

English Department Language Research News

Jo Arthur of the English department has recently been elected to serve on the Committee for Linguistics in Education (CLIE), representing the British Association for Applied Linguistics on this joint body with the Linguistics Association of Great Britain. This will allow Jo to contribute to responses from the CLIE to national developments in education and to help ensure that linguistic perspectives are taken account of in policy making. Jo's current research in language in education is a project supported by the Edge Hill Research Development Fund which focuses on classroom language use by investigating talk around Scots language texts in a Scottish primary school.

UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum at Edge Hill

The Third Annual Seminar of the UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum, a Special Interest Group of the British Association for Applied Linguistics, was held at Edge Hill on 7 and 8 April 2003. Jo Arthur of the Edge Hill English Department acted as local organiser for the seminar, which was attended by 25 scholars from the UK and further afield. The intellectually stimulating theme of the seminar was 'Translation, Interpretation and Representation: Issues for Linguistic Ethnography'. The programme comprised both interactive sessions, on a range of methodological issues, and input from guest speakers from Kings College and Goldsmiths in London, and from the Universities of Bristol, Liverpool and St. Andrews.

Raising the Profile of Community Language Research

At the recent Annual Meeting of the British Association for Applied linguistics (BAAL) a colloquium took place coordinated by Jo Arthur of the Edge Hill English Department and Joanna McPake of the Stirling University School of Education/Scottish CiLT. The colloquium, entitled 'Community language schooling in the UK: Towards a research agenda', brought together 15 researchers from across the UK currently working with different communities and focusing on different languages and literacies. The colloquium was the first of its kind, providing a forum for those who attended to consider how their work contributes to a critical social research agenda related to the experience and effects of community language schooling of different types and in a range of different settings. A further colloquium, at the biennial Sociolinguistics Symposium in Newcastle in April 2004 will focus more specifically on 'Interaction in Complementary

School Contexts'. As a further result of these collaborative activities, Jo Arthur and Joanna McPake are now preparing a bid on behalf of the network for BAAL/CUP funding to run a seminar in July 2004 which will help to inaugurate a BAAL Special Interest Group on community language schooling research.

The researchers involved are determined to maintain the momentum of recent developments in what has been a neglected field. While a fair volume of research has been published about bilingual children's experiences in mainstream classrooms, the teaching and learning of community languages, which is an integral part of the lives and education of these same children and their families, has received little research attention to date.

Such research has the potential to contribute to theoretical understandings, for example of bilingual identities and bilingual language use. It could also have important implications for applied linguists and educators, for example through the insights it offers into such issues as the impact of community language schooling on children's maintenance of bilinguality and on their achievement in the mainstream school.

Growing attention given to research perspectives in the *Community Language Bulletin* published by CiLT reflects the fact that research on community languages and community language schooling is building up throughout the country. For example, the latest bulletin (2003, no.13) contains an account by Jo Arthur of her recent work under the title 'Researching language in Liverpool: an ethnographic project focusing on Somali'. By drawing attention to – and thus helping to validate – the pluralist realities of bilingual children's linguistic and cultural identities, such research is of great relevance to current debates about citizenship, which are taking place within a wider ideological context dominated by monolingual and monocultural ideals.

Knowsley Project

Dr Keith Crawford, Faculty of Education and **Katherine Straker, Research Projects Officer**, are currently involved in an evaluation project funded by Knowsley Community College. Questionnaires were recently completed by 1st and 2nd year A-level students focusing on how the College facilitates student subject and course changes. Interviews are currently being conducted with both tutors and students and a final report will be produced by the end of the year.

Dr Keith Crawford of the Faculty of Education and **Katherine Straker** of the Research Office are currently evaluating two DfES funded ICT projects based in North East Lincolnshire.

The first one involves the use of new technologies to deliver real-time interactive lessons between an LEA pathfinder school and a school facing challenging circumstances. The objectives are to:

- i. Equip both a high-performing and low-performing school with the necessary technology to deliver simultaneous, interactive and cross-locational teaching and learning
- ii. Use expert teachers in the high-performing school to teach classes across both schools
- iii. Raise levels of attainment in ICT in the low-performing school

The second project uses new technologies to deliver real-time interactive lessons between an LEA pathfinder secondary school and a primary school. The objectives are to:

- i. Equip both the secondary and the primary school with the necessary technology to deliver simultaneous, interactive and cross-locational teaching and learning
- ii. Use expert teachers in both schools to teach classes across both schools
- iii. Raise levels of attainment in the primary school
- iv. Stretch the gifted and talented in the primary school
- v. Raise expectations of pupil attainment in Year 7 in the secondary school
- vi. Prevent the slow-down of pupil progress at the start of KS3

Observations at all three schools have been carried out and interviews with all teachers and pupils involved in the projects will be conducted before the end of the Autumn Term. These will explore participants' perceptions and thoughts regarding the projects as well as crucially exploring the quality of the children's learning. School data results and analysis will be used to assess the project's effect on raising pupil attainment.

THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF YOUNG SPECIALIST IN SPORT PSYCHOLOGY (ENYSSP) held its official inauguration meeting on July 2003 at the European Federation of Sport Psychology (FEPSAC) Congress in Copenhagen. The ENYSSP is a new initiative aiming to support professional development in research, education and applied work of young people in the sport and exercise psychology area in Europe. **Xavier Sanchez** of Edge Hill's Department of Sport & PE was elected its first President.

RESEARCH MATTERS

Edge Hill was well represented at the second 'Research Matters!' conference held at Liverpool Hope in September. This conference seeks to engage and encourage postgraduate researchers in the North West, whilst enabling links between North West Universities for the purposes of Research collaboration. **Paul Reynolds** of CSSS and the Social & Cultural Movements Group was invited to give a keynote address on 'Researching Sexual Consent: Why 'Critical' Research Matters', which used his work on the politics of sexual consent to advance a critical understanding of research practice in the context of instrumental pressures on university research in the present day.

Paul also ran a workshop on 'Ethics and Research Practice'. **Angie Naylor** of CSSS ran a popular workshop showcasing her research project on play therapy, and **Alistair McCulloch**, offered a workshop on 'how to manage your supervisor'. Given the prevailing focus on regional research co-operation, events like these increasingly assume more importance than simple co-operation in holding a postgraduate event. It is hoped that it will form the basis for more exchanges and collaborations between the Institutions.

An identification work that concentrated on two moth groups; the *Pyralidae* and Plume moths took place on the 18th October in NAS. The event was organised by **Graham Jones**, a research student based in NGAS, **Dr Alan Bedford** and Stephen Palmer, the Lancashire Microlepidoptera recorder. The key speakers for the workshop were Tony Davis and Colin Hart, both national authorities on these two moth groups.

The day was a great success with 25 people attending, the majority interested naturalists from outside of the college, with several travelling from as far as Warwickshire and Northumberland to attend the event.

Plans are already being made for another workshop to take place in autumn 2004. It is hoped that this workshop will concentrate on the identification of the leaf mining Microlepidoptera, and that the key speaker for this event will be Dr John Langmaid, the leading UK authority on the Microlepidoptera.

Graham Jones a research student based in NGAS gave a short presentation on his research; the ecology of *Impatiens noli-tangere* in relation to the conservation endangered moth *Eustroma reticulatum*, at the Royal Entomological Society North of England Postgraduate Seminar at Leeds University on the 15th October.

This year's BERA conference was held at Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh and **Rob Foster** of the Faculty of Education presented a paper 'The Ten Week Interview: the impact of Initial Teacher Training placements on teacher recruitment and retention'.

The paper drew on research to establish whether or not the recruitment by schools of Newly Qualified Teachers (NQT) who were on placement in the school is a factor in effective integration into and retention in the profession. A comparison was made between the experiences and perceptions of two groups of recently appointed teachers, those who had undertaken a placement in the school as part of their initial training and those who had been appointed having had no previous knowledge or experience of the school.

Key issues explored were:

- The impact on NQTs' level of job satisfaction and perceived success of being in a school that they know and where they are already known;
- The impact of knowing the school beforehand on the teacher's experience of the Induction Year and beyond;
- The impact of prior knowledge of the NQT from placement experience on the school's perception of the NQT's contribution and performance.

Initial analysis of data suggested that both satisfaction levels and retention rates amongst teachers recruited to schools where they were on placement were higher than those amongst teachers who did not know and were not known by the school prior to their appointment. Interview data suggested that previous knowledge and experience of the school, its opportunities and challenges, is an important factor in job satisfaction and perceptions of success. In the schools surveyed, fewer teachers recruited by schools where they had undertaken placements had left either the school or the profession in the first three years.

In the following two short pieces, **Marta Rabikowska** of the Department of Media & Communications talks about two events she attended recently. The first held between 2-4 September, 2003 was a conference organised by British Design and Art Direction and the second was a lecture involving the eminent sociologist Zygmunt Bauman.

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XCHANGE, London

At the beginning of September I had the opportunity to participate in an annual event for teachers and practitioners held by the British Design and Art Direction (D&AD), supported by the Chartered Institute of Marketing, Creative Review and Design Week. D&AD is well known to all design producers and lecturers in advertising and marketing not only in the UK but across the world. What they do is to seek to bridge the theoretical and practical divide between education and business. Their publications and various live events are sought and very much appreciated by both lecturers and producers. Every year both parties meet in London for three days in a unique forum to analyse and discuss the latest market trends and ideas in design and marketing communication. What is unique about the event is that D&AD gives us, the teachers, an opportunity to access a world network of professional contacts through keynote presentations, case studies and workshops prepared by the movers and shakers in design and advertising.

As a lecturer in advertising, I attended presentations from many of the gurus in the advertising business: Renzo di Renzo, Creative Coordinator at *Benetton*, Editor in *Chief Colors* magazine published in 40 countries worldwide; Graham Fink, Creative Partner at *Finktank*, the author of a famous advert for the British Airlines *alive "face"*; Dan Germain, a co-owner and copy writer for *Innocent*; Paul Philips, Head of Brand Futures at *Orange*; Michael Johnson, Creative Director at *Johnson Banks*, and the President of D&AD; Chris Dewar-Dixon, Managing Director at *Four IV*, the author of the design for *Mulberry* brand, *Harvey Nichols*, *Burberry*, *John Lewis*, and *Wedgwood and Boots*.

The speakers gave different styles of presentations and spoke on a wide range of topics. For example, Paul Philips analysed the circular decision structure in the Orange Company, Renzo di Renzo shocked us with the latest pictures for Benetton, Dan Germain shared with us his unbeatable recipes on how to make big money in the very competitive juice market; Chris Dewar-Dixon taught us his sophisticated and extremely artistic rules of design which won him *Clio* awards a couple of times, and last, but by no means least, Graham Fink gave us an exemplary class on how to teach advertising today, in which he referred to his own, very unconventional, methods of instinctive and problem-solve learning, which are applied already in the US

by the Miami Ad School (which has only two branches in Europe, in Poland and Germany: www.adschool.edu).

Each of them used audio-visual and empirical materials (bottled juice by *Innocent*, fake phones by *Orange*, copies of *Colors* etc) which we received after the meeting, and which I already employed in my classes at Edge Hill. I have to say that this very concrete result from the presentations makes the D&AD event exceptionally useful and educationally illuminating. I could see and meet practitioners in the advertising business and explore their other motivations which derive from their personal interests and hobbies. It seems to be not only about their marketing and creative innovation, (which is obviously the main target of the clients), but also about trying to promote the beauty of their product, which may be esthetically and ethically satisfying when handled with passion and curiosity. It was evident at the Xchange meeting that the greatest minds in the business were not simply driven by business. Apart from being graduates in marketing or design, they were also poets, writers, singers, painters, or critics.

Rick Poyner, with whom I am working on a piece of international research on the relationship between consumerism, advertising and democracy, is actually all of these. Poyner, who is widely known as a founder of *Eye* magazine is a designer and a philosopher, who gave a presentation on the present situation in communication and design. His critical and artistic standpoint are known from his books which are taught in academia all over the world in departments of communication, design and journalism (*More Dark than Shark*, 1986; *The City of Motion*, 1989, *Design Without Boundaries*, 1998; *Obey the Giant: Life in the Image World*, 2001; *Typographica*, 2001), while his entrepreneurial experience can be seen in his exhibition on the history of the British Design beginning September 2004, and his latest Internet blog initiation: www.2blowhards.com/archives/000988.html).

Through Xchange I got to grips with original educational strategies developed by practitioners and I learnt about the latest entrepreneurial solutions which will encourage my students towards business success. Since A&AD plays an influential role in promoting the values and potential of advertising, design and marketing in the UK, it is beneficial for any HEI to become a member of their list connecting clients with agencies, students with employers, and educators with practitioners. To be a member of the D&AD list means having a market-relevant curriculum, ensuring professional contacts, and supporting the course with the most up to date materials. The benefit for students is a powerful competitive advantage and a chance to see and assess current best practice in the business. The Department of Media and Communication intends to apply for membership.

17th Leeds International Film Festival: 2-12 October 2003.

Liquid Modernity: Zygmunt Bauman and Gustav Metzger.

Zygmunt Bauman studied at the London School of Economics and at the University of Warsaw. He has held chairs of sociology at the Universities of Warsaw (1964-68), Tel Aviv (1968-71), Leeds (1971-present). He has also served as a visiting professor at Concordia University (Montreal), the Australian National University, Berkley, Yale, Bielefeld and Memorial University (St John's). He is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Leeds and Warsaw. Among his books in English are: *Culture as Praxis*, *Towards a Critical Sociology*, *Post-modernity and Intellectuals*, *Between Class and Elite*, *Socialism: The Active Utopia*, *Hermeneutics and Social Sciences*, *Memories of Class*.

On the 11th of October I went to Leeds with my colleague **Claire Molloy** for an event, called *Evolution*, which was a part of the Leeds International Film Festival. It was a lecture from Zygmunt Bauman and Gustav Metzger which we attended, but it was principally the Polish sociologist, Zygmunt Bauman who made us go there despite the expensive entrance ticket and busy traffic on Saturday morning. Post-modern philosophy and sociology was the foundation not only to our Ph.Ds research, but also to our personal understanding of the world. Thus for us to see and hear Zygmunt Bauman was the Kantian categorical *imperativus*, or, put more simply, a must.

As it turned out, it was fully worth it. The meeting was opened by Griselda Pollock (director of Centre CATH) and was enriched with a contribution from Anthony Bryant (Professor of Informatics at Leeds Metropolitan University) who was speaking on the theory of chaos in relation to arts and mechanics. Zygmunt Bauman and Gustav Metzger, who are the two most uncompromising thinkers of the Twentieth Century, were commenting on their latest encounters with modern painting and other forms of art. All three speakers tried to consider major ethical and social questions about what we are becoming in an age of advanced communication and technological progress. *Liquid Modernity*, Bauman's famous definition of contemporary times, determined the range of problems discussed. Bauman's arguments are complex, but the following quotation from *Liquid Modernity*, explains his standpoint and can be used as a summary of the lecture:

"The society which enters the twenty-first century is no less "modern" than the society which entered the twentieth; the most one can say is that it is modern in a different way. What makes it as modern as it was a century or so ago is what sets modernity apart from all other historical forms of human cohabitation:

the compulsive and obsessive, continuous, unstoppable, forever incomplete *modernisation*; the overwhelming and ineradicable, unquenchable thirst for creative destruction (or for destructive creativity, as the case might be: of “clearing the sight” in the name of a “new and improved” design; of “dismantling”, “cutting out”, “phasing out”, “merging” or “downsizing”, all for the sake of a greater capacity for doing more of the same in the future – enhancing productivity or competitiveness)”. Bauman, Z. (2000), *Liquid Modernity*, London: Polity, p.28

Bauman’s critical philosophy throws a sharp light on the post-modern media culture, but most of all to the current politics of Western governments focused on enhancing productivity and efficiency in all spheres of life. Particularly in higher education, Bauman’s ethics (see: *Freedom*, 1988, *Legislators and Interpreters*, 1987, and particularly *Postmodern Ethics*, 1998) could be successfully applied for a restoration of the fundamental ideals which he derives from Plato’s two sentiments: *aidos* – sense of solidarity, and *dike* – sense of justice. Although they (as most ideals) seem unreachable for a contemporary MTV - microwave society, Bauman believes that by knowing that they are missing we are getting closer to them. Nevertheless, Bauman also admits that by operating with *aidos* and *dike* in both everyday life and also in our educational practice, we grow resistance which might be painful. Yet, it is not a new concept and teachers know it very well: knowledge hurts; it gives us too acute an awareness of who we are, and that may be too much for many.

Centre for Learning and Teaching Research Newsletter call for articles

The Centre for Learning and Teaching Research aims to publish a Newsletter during 2004 to be distributed both electronically on the Web (www.edgehill.ac.uk/cltr/) and in paper format via the Press Office.

All staff are invited to contribute items that would meet the aims of the Newsletter, as listed below, for inclusion in the new issue.

Aims of the Newsletter are to:

- raise the profile of the Centre for Learning and Teaching Research;
- disseminate developments in Learning and Teaching both within the College and further afield including interesting national and international developments;
- provide a platform for research active members of the college to publish their material;
- bring good practice from outside the College to the attention of readers;
- publicise relevant events across campus.

It is anticipated that the content of the Newsletter will largely fall into the following categories:

- **News:** Of L&T initiatives, projects and research, both inside the College and further afield are welcome.
- **Views:** To include short items in response to items in previous issues. Also to include reviews of books and journal publications, or conferences attended...
- **Publications:** Invitation to publish your research in-house.
- **On-going L&T Research:** Articles on your current research projects are welcome. This may include issues raised, call for advice, successful grant applications etc...
- **Events:** Seminars organised by the Centre will be publicised here. However should you know of any college wide staff development or national workshops / seminars / conferences that are of relevance we will be happy to post details in the Newsletter.

Photographs are especially welcome and it would be helpful if you could submit these as JPEG images if possible.

Fiona Mann
Research Development Officer
email mannf@edgehill.ac.uk

Laboratory and Practice Based Learning in Sport, Health & Exercise Sciences

Recently, a national workshop event was held in Staffordshire to develop links with other interested HE institutions and discuss current practice for supporting disabled students on sport, health and exercise courses. **Theo Bampouras** from the Department of Sport and Physical Education attended on behalf of Edge Hill.

Staffordshire University is working on a HEFCE funded project about supporting laboratory and practice based learning in Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences for disabled students. The project aims to develop a set of good practice guides for use by HE staff and students nationally.

As part of the project Staffordshire University will also be running a number of impairment related focus/discussion groups to explore the experiences and views of students about their sports science (or related) course.

If you think you know students who might be interested in participating and would like a student invitation pack(s), or you would like further information on the project please contact: Laura Morgan, Project Worker, School of Health, Staffordshire University, Blackheath Lane, Stafford, ST18 0AD. Tel: 01785 353651 Fax: 01785 353673 email: l.j.morgan@staffs.ac.uk

BASES CONFERENCE

The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) annual conference took place in Sheffield between 3 – 6 September, 2003 where it was joined by the British Association of Sports and exercise Medicine (BASEM). BASES is the professional body for all those with an interest in science, sport and exercise and aims to develop and spread knowledge about the application of science to sport and exercise.

Edge Hill was represented by two students, **Craig Bridge** and **Beverley Hobson** and three members of staff, **Dr Michelle Jones**, **Xavier Sanchez** and **Theo Bampouras**. Craig and Bev presented their undergraduate projects (both supervised by Michelle) as posters. Both posters were investigating the effects of caffeine on performance. Craig looked at effects of caffeine ingestion on 8-km runs – and whether caffeine would have an effect on endurance performance. Bev looked at the effect of caffeine on repeated sprint runs and its effect on high intensity exercise.

The poster session consisted of presentations and defense of the posters. The Edge Hill posters presentations were of the highest standard. The 5-minute defence was also very good as both Michelle, but especially ‘fresher’ Craig, had to answer questions from world authorities on the topic. The end of the successful and interesting conference was celebrated by the delegates enjoying a banquet in Sheffield’s Cutlers Hall and dancing the night away in one of Sheffield’s nightclubs.

The experience has sparked enthusiasm for more submissions of undergraduate work in both poster and oral presentation formats. As communication of knowledge and findings are the ‘currency’ of the field, it is important – as well as exciting – for students to be able to present their hard work. Current third years are already working hard towards their dissertations and it is anticipated that some of these will be of the standard required to be submitted to a conference and – possibly – for publication.

**Dr. Joanna Poon, Research Funding Officer,
Research Office - Some advice for obtaining
research funding.**

Eligibility of Applicants

It is important to make sure you are eligible to apply. Therefore, it is worth checking your eligibility (e.g. Edge Hill is both an academic institution and a registered charity), your eligibility status, the activity location (i.e. where can the activity take place?) and the citizenship or residency requirements for the applicant.

Identifying the most suitable funding sources.

First, you have to make sure that the area of your research project matches the aims of the targeted funding body. You should also think about what is the most 'suitable' funding for yourself and your project. For example, if you are a junior academic or researcher just starting your career, it is advisable to apply for funding which is limited to 'young researchers' or to apply for a relatively small amount of money. As another example, if you are going to conduct a psychology-related project, apply for funding from Psychology-related organisations in preference to applying from Research Councils, where competition may be more fierce.

Application Procedures

Different research funders have different application procedures. The Research Councils and some other funding bodies offer both responsive and directed modes. Several councils have abolished closing dates for responsive mode grants, at least for small applications, and are experimenting with fast track appraisal leading to earlier decisions. This mode allows you to determine the topic of your research. On the other hand, the directed mode requires a clear match with programme objectives as determined by the Research Councils. You may also have to meet management conditions imposed by the council, such as collaboration, joint funding or timetable.

Government departments will not provide research grants, but they do issue calls for tenders for research projects. If you would like tender for a project, your name must be on the Department's list.

Content of the Proposal

It is important to provide a well written 'summary' in plain English. This can help an evaluator to grasp the main points. The summary may be the only part of the application read by the final selectors.

It is important to attract a sponsor's attention in the opening paragraph; using a semi-journalistic writing style may be a good idea. You must convince both expert referees and the less expert committee

member that you have an exciting and feasible idea. This is the moment to overstate, rather than understate your point or question. You can add any conditions and caveats later.

Committees often treat references and bibliographies as a sign of seriousness on the part of the applicant. The importance of references is to prove that the applicant has done a sufficiently substantive review. A bibliography may be used to select referees.

Research Methodology

In this section, it is important to make sure that you devote enough space to describing the methods you intend to use to conduct the research and how long it will take. Funders find it very frustrating when applicants devote pages to explaining why their proposed research is exciting but then provide only a short and inadequate explanation of how they propose to explore this in practice.

The proposed mode of analysis must be explained clearly rather than relying on the reader to guess. For instance, if you are talking about carrying out an analysis don't just say, for example, 'chemical analysis'. Specify which techniques you are going to use rather than make general statements. This will show that you have thought the project through properly and that you are aware of the available techniques.

Costings

Specify exactly what you want to spend the Funder's money on. You should be especially careful if you intend to use the funding for replacement teaching costs or the purchase of computer hardware and equipment. Some funding bodies will not provide funding in either area.

Importance of referees

It is important to contact the people you intend to nominate as referees and make sure they know what you are doing. This is crucially important as it is less likely that they will be able to make favourable comments if they don't know the background of your project.

This paper is based on the **Guide to Obtaining Research Funding** which offers much more detailed guidance and which is published on the new Research Office web site.

The website can be found at:

<http://www.edgehill.ac.uk/Research/Funding/Guide/ResearchFunding.htm>.

SPREADING THE WORD PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Brown, A. (2003) *English Society and the Prison: Time, culture and politics in the development of the modern prison, 1850-1920* Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer.

Crawford, K. (2003). *Contemporary Issues in Education: An Introduction*. Peter Francis Publishers.

Verney K, J. African Americans and U.S. Popular Culture (London: Routledge, July 2003), pp.130.

Wright, P. (2003) *Attending Daedalus* Liverpool University Press.

ARTICLES

Barton A (2002/03) 'Responding to Punishment in the Community: Conformity as Resistance in a Women's Probation Hostel' in *British Journal of Community Justice* Vol 1 (3) pp 37- 49

Brown, A. (2003) 'Legitimacy in the Evolution of the Prison: The Chatham Convict Prison Outbreak 1861,' *Criminal Justice History* Vol.18. pp107-119

Brown, A. G.Banks, S.Jowett and G.Goodall (2003) 'A View from the Street: Homelessness, Begging and Drug Misuse', *Journal of Community Safety* 3. pp 13-14

Diamond,J. (2002) "Regeneration – Potential or missed opportunity – What is the contribution to the new learning Agenda? In Journal of Access and Credit Studies 4.1 (pp 32-41).

Diamond, J. (2002) "Working with young people in regeneration: Lessons from Manchester" in Local Governance 28.4 (pp 299-309)

Diamond,J. and Liddle,J. (2003) "Regional Governance: Some unresolved issues" in Public Policy and Administration 18.2 (pp 106-117)

Murphy, P.N., Bentall, R.P., Ryley, L.D., and Ralley, R. (2003). Predicting post-discharge opiate abstinence from admission measures of motivation and confidence. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 17, 167-170.

Rawding, C. Agricultural practices and state intervention during the Second World War : a case study of South West Lancashire.' in *North West Geography* Vol 3 No1, 2003, pp1-11.

Russell, P., 'Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Lancashire Connection' *The Local Historian* Vol.33 pp 112-120 No2 May 2003

CONFERENCE PAPERS & REPORTS

Beaumont C & Frank B. (2003) *Enhancing Employability through PBL* UCLAN Employability Conference

Beaumont C. & Fox C. (2003) *Learning Programming: Enhancing Quality through Problem-based Learning* LTSN-ICS conference paper

Beaumont C. & Chew S. C. (2003) *PBL sans frontiers: Using ICT to facilitate learning in globally distributed teams* Enquiry Based Learning conference (Manchester) September

Beaumont C, Sackville A, Chew S. C. *Identifying Good practice in the use of PBL for teaching computing* - Accepted for publication in *ITALICS* , Electronic journal published by the LTSN-ICS.

Brown, J, Graham, D., Chapman T., (September 2003). *ASME Annual Scientific Meeting*, Herriot Watt University, Edinburgh, 9th - A pilot study comparing the views of Liverpool medical graduates from the traditional lecture based curriculum and the problem based learning (PBL) curriculum.

Brown. J., First Joint Academic Meeting: (June 2003) *Conference of Postgraduate Deans (COPMeD) and the Workforce Development Confederations/NHS Partners* - Royal College of Physicians, London Work in progress: An investigation of factors influencing teaching and learning in pre-registration year.

Culbertson, L., (Sept. 2003) 'Sartre Contra Sartre: A Rejection of Sartre's First Ethics as the Moral Ground of Sporting Conduct' at the *International Association for the Philosophy of Sport Annual Conference* at the University of Gloucestershire on 20th September.

Davis, M. (2003), Evaluating MOET. *Association for Medical Education in Europe Annual Meeting*. University of Bern, Switzerland, September.

Diamond,J., Speeden,S. with **Brader, A.** (2003) Evaluation of Summer Plus 2002 Report to Greater Manchester Connexions.

Diamond,J. and **Speeden,S.** with **Chesters, G** and **Leeming, K.** (2003) Evaluation of the Secure Transport Route Pilot commissioned by Crime Concern on behalf of the Department for Transport

Diamond, J., (2003) Evaluation of Community Empowerment Network in Lewisham commissioned by Voluntary Action Lewisham.

Diamond, J. (2003) Evaluation of the On Track Project in East Manchester commissioned by Oldham Youth Inclusion Project

Diamond, J. (2002) "Capacity Building : Reflecting on the Experience in a Local Regeneration Initiative" in RSA Annual Conference Proceedings 22 November (pp 36-39)

Hartill, M. and **Prescott, P.** (2002) Report '*An Evaluation of BARLA's Child Protection Policy Implementation (Pilot Study)*' - Consultative Report for the *British Amateur Rugby League Association*, November

Naylor, A (2003) Exploring the Concept of Change in Play Therapy. *Research Matters Conference*, Liverpool Hope University College.

Poon, J. (September 2003) Professional ethics for surveyors and construction project performance: what we need to know: in *Proceedings of Construction and Building Research (COBRA)*, Wolverhampton, University of Wolverhampton, UK, pp.232-242.

Reynolds, P., (2003) 'Some Thoughts on Marxism and the Social Construction of Sexuality', a Paper for the 5th '*Socialism and Sexuality*' *International Conference*, University of Amsterdam, October 2003.

Reynolds, P., (2003) 'Ranciere and the Political: Decoding the Political, Politicisation, Depoliticisation and the Apolitical', a Paper for the '*Fidelity to the Disagreement: Ranciere and the Political*' *Conference* at Goldsmiths College, UK, September 2002.

Reynolds, P., (2003) 'Reading Cohen's Marxism: Critical Reflections', A Paper for the *Political Studies Association of GB Marxism Specialist Group Annual Conference* on the theme of 'Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of G.A. Cohen's Karl Marx's Theory of History: A Defence', Leeds Metropolitan University, September 2003

Reynolds, P., (2003) 'Refusing Community', A Paper for the 6th *Conference of the Society for Applied European Thought* on the theme of 'Meanings of Community' at the Palecky University, Olomouc, Czech Republic, July 2003.

Sanchez, X. (2003) *11th European Congress of Sport Psychology* Copenhagen. Paper on 'New Approaches to Exercise and Sport Psychology: Theories, Methods and Applications'. A CD-ROM version with long-abstracts has also been published by FEPSAC (European Federation of Sport and Exercise Psychology).

Sanchez, X. & Boschker, M.S.J. (2003). Performing on the edge as a matter of success: The example of climbing competition. In FEPSAC Sport and Exercise International Congress Book of Abstracts, pp. 150 (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Sanchez, X. & Wautier, P. (2003). The Taekwondo Combat Assessment System-TCAS: A notational analysis tool. In FEPSAC Sport and Exercise International Congress Book of Abstracts, pp. 150 (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Stokes, P. and **McCulloch, A.** (2003) Lived Experience: Surfacing Messiness in Doctoral Processes, Working Paper presented in the Knowledge and Learning SIG - Sub-Theme: Management Research and Management Development - Co-Production of Knowledge at The British Academy of Management Conference, Harrogate, 15th-17th September, 2003.

Torregrosa, M., **Sanchez, X.**, Cruz, J. (2003). Prospective vs. retrospective analysis of withdrawing from active sport. In FEPSAC Sport and Exercise International Congress Book of Abstracts, pp. 174 (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Montgomery, C., Fisk, J.E., Newcombe, R., **Wareing, M.**, and **Murphy, P.** (2003). Syllogistic reasoning performance in MDMA (Ecstasy) users. *Proceedings of the British Psychological Society*, 11, 279.

WORKSHOPS

Diamond, J. (2003) "Managing Conflict in Partnerships" Workshop with Voluntary Action Lewisham 9 July.

Diamond, J. (2003) "Developing a Health Check for Partnership Working" Greater Manchester Connexions 18 July

AROUND THE EDGE

A warm welcome goes to our latest research students:-

Michael Harthill – part-time in CSSS. ‘Child abuse in sport’.

Vanessa Holden – full-time in Natural & Geographical Applied Science. ‘An investigation of past, present and future sea-level change’

Simon O’Brien – full-time in CSSS. ‘Dyslexia and employment’.

Julia Phillimore – part-time in Education. ‘Textbook analysis in maths’

Josephine Powell – part-time in English. ‘The development of female crime writing & the influence of feminism and genre’.

Our Congratulations go to the following Research Students who have been awarded their Degrees

Thanks also to their external examiners (name and institution in brackets after the title of the thesis)

Brader, A, (PhD) – ‘Youth Identities: Time, Space & Social Exclusion’.
(Dr. Sarah Banks - University of Durham)

Lynes, D, (PhD) – ‘Exploration of Power Dialectics occurring between Health Professionals’.
(Professor M. Johnson, Salford University)
(Dr. Rosemary Chesson, Robert Gordon University)

Power, C. (PhD) – ‘A Critical Examination of the Normalisation of Special Powers within the European Union and their Impact on Operational Policing’
(Mike Tomlinson, Queen’s University, Belfast)

Thomas, D, (MPhil) – ‘The Priority of Personhood over Gender in the life teaching of Jesus as Depicted in the Gospels’.
(Rev. Dr. R. Edwards, Aberdeen)

BEYOND THE EDGE

OPEN LECTURE SERIES 2003/04

The Centre for Studies in Crime and Social Justice is starting a new series of ‘Open Lectures’ during 2003/04. The series provides a focus for civil liberties, human rights and social justice issues and is open to all interested in attending. The first lecture will be presented by Liz Fekete, who is Deputy Director of the Institute of Race Relations (IRR) and Head of Research into European Racism. She has published widely including two recent pamphlets, ‘Racism: the hidden cost of September 11’ and ‘Reclaim people’s security: from national security to global security: counter-terrorism in Asia and Europe’. [Visit IRR’s website for further information: www.irr.org.uk]. Details of the presentation are as follows:

TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2003, 6.30 pm in Room M40 (main building).
The War Against Refugees

Liz Fekete, Deputy Director Institute of Race Relations

While the US is rewriting international law on the rules of war to justify the invasion of Iraq, the governments of Europe, Australia and North America are undermining international law on refugee protection. The War Against Terrorism and the War Against Refugees are being linked, as those in power create a ‘metaphysics of fear’ and deploy the ‘politics of deceit’ to justify the systematic human rights abuses of those deemed ‘other’, ‘alien’, and, as such, beyond the pale of civilisation.

ALL WELCOME

Further details, please contact Ann Jemphrey, CSCSJ. Tel: 01695 584055, Email: jempha@edgehill.ac.uk

The 2003 Ig Nobel Prize winners

The *Annals of Improbable Research* have recently announced the winners of the 2003 Ig Nobel Prizes. The announcement includes the assertion that each winner has done something that first makes people LAUGH, and then makes them THINK.

Nine of the ten new winners (or in one case, the closest living relative) attended the October 2 ceremony at Harvard's Sanders Theatre. And the tenth winner (Lal Bihari) ALMOST made it (for details see the mini-AIR website).

Now, the awards:

ENGINEERING

The late John Paul Stapp, the late Edward A. Murphy, Jr., and George Nichols, for jointly giving birth in 1949 to Murphy's Law, the basic engineering principle that "If there are two or more ways to do something, and one of those ways can result in a catastrophe, someone will do it" (or, in other words: "If anything can go wrong, it will").

PHYSICS

Jack Harvey, John Culvenor, Warren Payne, Steve Cowley, Michael Lawrance, David Stuart, and Robyn Williams of Australia, for their irresistible report "An Analysis of the Forces Required to Drag Sheep over Various Surfaces."

MEDICINE

Eleanor Maguire, David Gadian, Ingrid Johnsrude, Catriona Good, John Ashburner, Richard Frackowiak, and Christopher Frith of University College London, for presenting evidence that the brains of London taxi drivers are more highly developed than those of their fellow citizens.

PSYCHOLOGY

Gian Vittorio Caprara and Claudio Barbaranelli of the University of Rome, and Philip Zimbardo of Stanford University, for their discerning report "Politicians' Uniquely Simple Personalities."

CHEMISTRY

Yukio Hirose of Kanazawa University, for his chemical investigation of a bronze statue, in the city of Kanazawa, that fails to attract pigeons.

LITERATURE

John Trinkaus, of the Zicklin School of Business, New York City, for meticulously collecting data and publishing more than 80 detailed academic reports about specific annoyances and anomalies of daily

life, such as: What percentage of young people wear baseball caps with the peak facing to the rear rather than to the front; What percentage of pedestrians wear sport shoes that are white rather than some other color; What percentage of swimmers swim laps in the shallow end of a pool rather than the deep end; What percentage of automobile drivers almost, but not completely, come to a stop at one particular stop-sign; What percentage of commuters carry attaché cases; What percentage of shoppers exceed the number of items permitted in a supermarket's express checkout lane; and What percentage of students dislike the taste of Brussels sprouts.

ECONOMICS

Karl Schwärzler and the nation of Liechtenstein, for making it possible to rent the entire country for corporate conventions, weddings, bar mitzvahs, and other gatherings.

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Stefano Ghirlanda, Liselotte Jansson, and Magnus Enquist of Stockholm University, for their inevitable report "Chickens Prefer Beautiful Humans."

PEACE

Lal Bihari, of Uttar Pradesh, India, for a triple accomplishment: First, for leading an active life even though he has been declared legally dead; Second, for waging a lively posthumous campaign against bureaucratic inertia and greedy relatives; and Third, for creating the Association of Dead People.

BIOLOGY

C.W. Moeliker, of Natuurmuseum Rotterdam, the Netherlands, for documenting the first scientifically recorded case of homosexual necrophilia in the mallard duck.

Further details, including full citations, and links to most of the winners and their work, is at <http://www.improbable.com/ig/ig-pastwinners.html#ig2003>

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ISSUE
ARE INVITED – PLEASE FORWARD TO
JULIE PROUD BY 1st February 2004**