

# Celebrating Achievements and Exploring Future Directions

**A one-day pre-conference event for staff involved in delivering postgraduate certificates in teaching and learning (Academic Practice/Higher Education)**

19th November 2007  
Novotel, Birmingham

Postgraduate certificates in professional practice in Higher Education have been established for a number of years in most higher education institutions. Indeed Dearing and the subsequent white paper led many of us to understand that all staff new to teaching in HE would be obliged to participate in an accredited programme. In the intervening years a system of accreditation has been set up but the picture remains quite varied. Many programmes are well embedded into the life of their institution but some still struggle for support. Issues such as location and resources, level, balance of theory and practice, forms of assessment and links to subsequent CPD are fluid and sometimes problematic. Yet overall, nationally, the picture is one of significant progress. It seems timely to celebrate the many achievements of these programmes and to explore together possible ways ahead.

## Aims

- To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas regarding the running of PG Certs
- To update colleagues on the national picture
- To offer a constructive environment for examining different approaches
- To explore ways ahead for these programmes
- To stimulate and facilitate appropriate networks

## Audience

- Staff who are involved in the delivery of PG Certs in HE

## Format

The day will be facilitated by a member of the SEDA Conference Committee (Dr Sue Grace, University of York) and will consist of mini-presentations by practitioners on the current state of play; discussion groups around topical issues; opportunities for information exchange (including poster/handbook display for those

who wish to contribute). Discussion topics are likely to include issues mentioned in the provisional programme but other possibilities exist depending on interests, e.g. distance delivery, course content, working with managers, and pathway development. The key purpose of the day is to offer you the opportunity to discuss with others who are involved in working on these programmes. Many have valued the regional networks in this work and this day will be an opportunity to consolidate such peer support in a national context.