ALPS Bulletin

ALPS Continues…

The HEFCE-funded ALPS CETL programme came to a successful completion in September 2010, but the ALPS work continues.

The HEFCE programme demonstrated the benefits of the collaborative working across institutions and professions: producing valuable outputs (tools, resources and reports) for the wider education community. ALPS has also published a Casebook, containing case studies demonstrating the work which ALPS has undertaken and the impact it has had within the 5 ALPS higher education Institutions (HEIs) and the 16 professions. All the ALPS outputs and the Casebook are available from the ALPS CETL website (www.alps-cetl.ac.uk). Over the next year the ALPS Core team will be working to disseminate this work further, supporting others in using our outputs – if you are interested in using the ALPS outputs then please contact us

At the same time, six ALPS Collaborative Networks have been formed to take the ALPS work forward; these draw on the shared interests and expertise that have developed over the 5 years and focus on the following ALPS areas:

- Competency Mapping – Patient Safety
- Mobile Learning and Assessment
- Service Users and Carers
- Accessibility with an IT Focus
- ePortfolios
- Use of the CiPA tool in Personal Development Planning

Each network brings together staff from across the whole ALPS Partnership and will continue the ALPS work, not only embedding the existing resources, but also working to understand and shape the future of Higher Education and practice-based education. You can find out more about the ALPS Networks at the ALPS Network Day on Monday 24th January. Please register if you would like to join us.

The outputs that ALPS has achieved are the source of great pride and satisfaction to all who have been involved in the CETL, students, staff and

service users but the fact that this work is to be the foundation for new endeavors is particularly rewarding. We hope you find the information in this newsletter and our website interesting, please do contact us if you have any questions or would like to become more involved in the ALPS work.

Tamsin Treasure-Jones (ALPS Programme Manager)
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ALPS Collaborative Networks

The **Patient Voice Network** is a group of patients, carers and members of staff who work together in partnership to:

- Propose a sustainable method/model of service user and carer preparation prior to involvement
- Recommendations for a method/model of evaluating the impact on the service user and carer of getting involved in education and where possible linking this to the Quality Innovation Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) agenda
- Explore the way of capturing the journey for other people 'How do we let other people know about it?' e.g. Produce a booklet
- Research and publish

Jools Symons (Patient Voice Network Lead)
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Through an active and collaborative the **Competency Mapping Network** aims to successfully embed the ALPS competency mapping process across health and social care professions enabling the delivery of a Patient Safety map and the recognition of ALPS's contribution to the competency framework of the department of Health and Skills for Care.

Catherine Coates (Competency Mapping Network)
C.A.Coates@leedsmet.ac.uk

The overall aim of the **Mobile Learning Network** is to be a recognised centre of expertise in the development and application of mobile learning in practice-based learning and assessment. The network will be a collaboration between students, academics, learning technologists, technologists, practice based staff and commercial partners.

Andy Pellow (Mobile Learning Network Lead)
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The **e-Portfolio Network** will share good practice and expertise among ALPS partner sites in the use of e-portfolios for reflective learning, measurement of professional competencies, personal development planning, enterprise & entrepreneurship, and employability and gain a better understanding of how e-portfolios can be used to effectively enhance the student experience.

Jill Taylor (e-Portfolio Network Lead)
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The **Disabled Students; Enabled Practitioners Network** will build on a range of existing work strands that have taken place in Bradford and Huddersfield and across the region, to increase awareness of the key issues and ways in which students with impairments can be supported in practice settings. The technological focus will be on new technologies to streamline transitions and adjustments. This work will link with the CiPA Network.

Chris Dearnley (Disabled Students; Enabled Practitioners Network Lead)
c.a.dearnley1@Bradford.ac.uk

The CiPA (Competency in Practice Assessment) tool was developed within the ALPS partnership in order to measure the perceived competence and confidence of students on graduation, in order to understand the impact of the ALPS programme across time.

The **CiPA Network** will develop the CiPA tool which will align with Personal Development Planning (PDP) in order for students to gain feedback for themselves on their own confidence and competence at measured points of their pre- qualifying/ pre-registration programme. Some professions may also find advantage to using this tool in the early years following registration.

This network will also further ALPS -related projects, working closely with the 'Accessibility with an IT focus' network to design a self completion, pre placement exercise to support assessment and learning in practise and PDP.
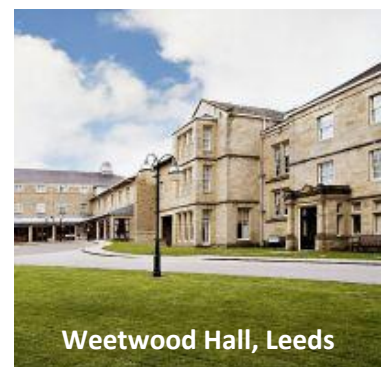
Janet Hargreaves (CiPA Network Lead)
J.Hargreaves@hud.ac.uk

If you are interested in joining any of the networks please contact the network lead.

Find out more about the ALPS Networks – Monday January 24th

Join us at Weetwood Hall on the 24th January to find out more about the ALPS Networks – what they can do for you and how you can be involved. We have a full, but relaxed, day planned that will give you plenty of opportunities to catch up with what ALPS has been doing, quiz the Network Leads about

Weetwood Hall, Leeds

their plans, meet colleagues from across the ALPS partnership, contribute your

ideas, find out what benefits you would gain from joining one of the networks and enjoy the excellent hospitality that Weetwood Hall provides. To register email alps@leeds.ac.uk

ALPS Website Update

The ALPS website has recently undergone some changes, to reflect the changing nature of the ALPS programme. The website now has a dual purpose of providing a succinct archive of all of the outputs of a 5 year Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning, alongside supporting the introduction and growth of the 6 ALPS networks which have just been formed.

People can now access all of the reports produced by ALPS as well as view a comprehensive list of all of the papers and presentations delivered on ALPS' behalf. Special attention has been paid to illustrating the hard work completed on behalf of the 16 health and social care professions involved in ALPS. As seen in the ALPS Casebook which can be viewed in full on the website http://www.alps-cetl.ac.uk/casebook.html. Hard copies of the casebook will be available in the New Year.

Quick, colourful links on the front page indicate the various areas of interest that ALPS connects to, reflected in the new Networks. All the work previously completed in these areas such as Service User and Carer involvement and Interprofessional Learning and Assessment are immediately accessible, alongside opportunities to join the relevant network.

Also presented are all the details of the first meeting of the ALPS networks in January 24th 2011 with the day's programme and details of how to join the network of your choice.

Nancy Davies (ALPS Learning Technologist)
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ALPS Tools Review

The ALPS generic assessment tools have been updated following rigorous research for validity, reliability and usability.

They can be found on the ALPS –CETL website; www.alps-cetl.ac.uk/tools.html During the ALPS extension year we will be collecting data and organising focus group feedback from the students in order to be able to continually improve the usability of the tools. Work will also be on going to investigate the educational impact of the tools.

If you are intending to use the ALPS assessment tools with your students then please contact me so that we can organise collection of data and feedback from students and tutors.

Julie Laxton (ALPS Teaching Fellow)
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