

Newsletter No. 5 October 2002

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Promoting diversity in Nursing and allied Health Professions

Rotherham College of Arts and Technology has used funding from Building Pathways to develop a project to widen participation onto health care programmes by accessing potential recruits from the Black and Ethnic minority communities of Sheffield and Rotherham. A multi-lingual colleague, culturally sensitive to issues surrounding Muslim women going into nursing, was recruited to work with groups and families from selected Black and Ethnic minority communities.

The project aimed to support work on the new Cadetship programme at RCAT and involved arranging meetings for parents and potential students, developing a leaflet in Urdu to publicise programmes of learning, arranging visits to the College and Sheffield universities and liaising with careers advisors. The project worker supported a number of Somali, Yemeni and Pakistani girls through the interview ordeal to enter the cadet training programme.

A spin-off from the work has resulted in a £7,000 grant being received from the Department of Health to help with start up costs for culturally sensitive uniforms.

The cadetship programme has recruited well and of the 77 students enrolled on the health science programmes in RCAT this year a third are from Black and Ethnic Minority groups with 12 of these students enrolled on the new Cadetship programme, which is running in partnership with NHS Trusts in Rotherham and Sheffield, University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University and the South Yorkshire NHS Confederation. Some of the students, particularly from Muslim backgrounds, will be on the course specifically because of assurances and explanations offered to them and their families by the project worker, Baserah Khan.

Details from Terry Roche, Faculty Manager or Baserah Khan - RCAT: Tel 01709 362111

Access Science on-line in Sheffield College

During the summer months BP provided funding for a pilot Access Science on-line project at The Sheffield College. This project aims to develop web-based material which is suitable for use with level 3 Science/Health Science Access to HE students. Initial work on transferring the Health Science handbook to the Internet has taken place. It is anticipated that regular up-dating will take place and that this document will quickly supersede the traditional paper-based document as the definitive course handbook. Frequent up-dating and the presence of links can only assist students

(< http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/projects/access_online/Health_Science_Access/HSAhandbook/hsahb2002.htm >).

Other material is available at < http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/projects/access_online/Health_Science_Access/titles.htm >.

The latter has developed over the last eighteen months. The site is easily accessible and user-friendly and a good example of how e-learning can be used to support learners through their programmes of study and in preparation for study in Higher Education.

Further details from: Dave Pickersgill, Programme Manager, Sheffield College Tel: 0114 2602585

SPOTLIGHT

Fair Exchange

**Widening Participation in Higher Education
The Yorkshire and Humber Experience**

15th November 2002

The Alfred McAlpine Stadium, Huddersfield

**Key note speakers and workshops, exhibition of
projects and activities.**

**Building Pathways will be presenting with partner
colleagues at the event.**

Cost: £25 includes refreshments and lunch

For further information please contact Samantha Armitage:
Professional Lifelong Learning Unit
School of Continuing Education
Tel: 0113 343 3241, Fax: 0113 343 3240,
email: s.armitage@leeds.ac.uk

Guidance Network Launched

Building Pathways is working with Sheffield Hallam University, partner FE Colleges and Sheffield Futures to develop an effective local guidance network. The aim of the network is to ensure shared knowledge and updating around progression routes for learners from pre-entry into the university. The network proposes to meet at least twice each year. Last meeting on Wed 7th November 10am to 4pm at RCAT. **Contact John Harvey for further details**

Auditing Progression Routes into Sheffield Hallam University

The BP Project is jointly working with Sheffield Hallam Associate College Partnership to audit existing agreements for learners undertaking HE programmes in FE colleges wanting progression in degree programmes in SHU. The aim is to develop an up to date record of the agreements between each School in SHU and local colleges and hold the information on an electronic database which will be accessible by staff in the Student Services Centre in SHU and also College Partners. **Details from Judy Smith**

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☆ **STOPPRESS STOPPRESS STOPPRESS STOPPRESS** ☆
☆ Building Pathways has been working in partnership with ☆
☆ Sheffield LEA reviewing progression pathways for ☆
☆ Classroom Assistants into Higher Education. As a direct ☆
☆ result of the information and guidance by the project ☆
☆ worker, Irene Garland, three Classroom Assistants have ☆
☆ progressed to degree programmes in Sheffield Hallam ☆
☆ University this September. **CHECK OUR UPDATED WEB-** ☆
☆ **SITE** www.shu.ac.uk/pathways ☆
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Building Pathways
37 Broomgrove Road
Collegiate Crescent Campus
Sheffield Hallam University
Sheffield S10 2BP
Telephone 0114 225 2530
E-mail j.harvey@shu.ac.uk
Web site www.shu.ac.uk/pathways

