

REPORT FROM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Professional Development Committee has met twice since the last executive meeting, firstly at GCU on 24th November 2009 and then at Stirling University on 22nd January 10. Below is a summary of the business discussed.

Key Points

SUS Conference 09: PDC discussed the content of workshops and potential key note speakers for conference 2010. It was decided that any key note speaker has to be in a subject area that would have some interest and relevance to the whole group, something that is becoming increasingly harder to achieve. The intention is to have all the workshops and speakers confirmed by end April to allow workshops to be booked when delegates register.

The conference will be in Aberdeen with the first day at AU and the second day at RGU. The intention this year is to provide a branded t-shirt in the delegate pack to help get the SUS brand out and about. However this raised concerns and a range of views on whether it's appropriate to give the college delegates a SUS branded t-shirt. It was agreed CMC would raise this at exec for a decision.

The conference will start later on the first day to allow extra time for delegated/speakers travelling that morning. Draft programme will be available for next exec.

Christmas Seminar: This year's event was well received with an attendance of just approximately 110 which is over 40 up on the previous year. The feedback was good and PDC was happy with the event as a whole although, as always, there is room for improvement. GCU proved to be excellent hosts and we thank them for this. The more mini conference like programme also seemed to work well, in particular the debate proved popular.

SUS Strategy - PDC Action Plan: At our first meeting we allocated the tasks of the PDC action plan to members of PDC. Progresses on these items are then updated on at each meeting. Good progress is being made and key developments are:

- Working towards Level Foundation Equity standard, including survey of all committees, training session for all committees, and updating the SUS Equity Policy
- Administration forum up and running managed by Administrators for Administrators with a date coming very soon
- Operations forum will take place on 28th April at Strathclyde University details to follow.
- SUS mobile phone application currently in final testing and expected to be launched soon.

- SDO forum to be established with a first workshop in managing and administration of winning students which we hope will be of interest to colleges as well.
- Web site, facebook and newsletter have all now passed their KPI's as set out in the PDC action plan.

SUS National Campaign on Student Inactivity and the benefits of sport and exercise

Following on from the social marketing speaker at seminar PDC discussed the potential for SUS to work in partnership with a number of other agencies such as Health for All, NUS, sportscotland etc. to develop a campaign to encourage students to get active.

It was suggested that there may be an opportunity to develop the campaign along side the Active Student proposal as this would require input from all SUS staff and all the committees that we establish a working group to look at how this could be taken forward.

SUS Executive is asked to consider the following:

Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider concerns over appropriate branding for conference to include Scottish Colleges ○ Consider a National Campaign on Student Inactivity and the Benefits of Sport and Exercise