

JISC RSC Scotland South & West Team

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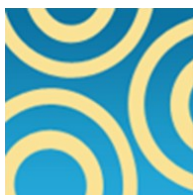
Date for your Diary - 21 February 2011
**Enhancing Business Performance:
The Role of Technology in Developing Skills and Knowledge**
e-Science Institute, 15 South College Street, Edinburgh
Free for HE & FE in Scotland. Book your place at
<http://www.nesc.ac.uk/esi/events/1127/>

Free one day conference exploring how HE/FE institutions are using technology to improve business and employer engagement. Find out about the technical solutions, opportunities and challenges of employer engagement!

Book your place at: www.nesc.ac.uk/esi/1127/



RSC Newsfeed



Throughout the year, staff from both Scottish RSCs scour their favourite websites to bring you the latest and most interesting new technologies and innovation to add sparkle and value to teaching and learning.

Newsfeed is blog based which means you have the chance to comment on any item that takes your interest. In addition all items will be archived and the archive is searchable.

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/news.htm#newsfeed

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InContact



You are Simply the Best!

For the past two years we have thoroughly enjoyed working on a vast range of case studies with our local institutions under our "Best of the West" banner. By putting a spotlight on innovative and creative examples of uses of technology in tertiary education in the west of Scotland, we aimed to inspire and encourage other institutions to follow suit by trying out some of the examples of best practice and engage in a knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Well, inspire you we did! To date we have recorded over 40 case studies, including a good number of podcasts and videocasts. All of them are all freely available on our website to download or just browse whenever and wherever you have internet access. With at least another 6 new case studies in the pipeline, we are continuing with this theme until our **Best of the West** awards event on June 10th, so if you have been meaning to contact us with an idea for a case study, let us know asap! We'd be happy to come out for a visit to discuss your idea for a case study and what format you would like, whether video, audio or written up by one of the team.

More information on the awards and how you can contribute to the case studies are on page 3.



Best of the West

Newsletter of the
RSC Scotland
South & West

January 2011

Contents

Information
Literacy

Microsoft
vs Google

Awards for the
Best of the West

Free Tutorials from
JISC Digital Media

JISClegal Guide

Topic Briefings

Meet our new
e-Learning Advisor!

RSCtv on demand

Keeping an eye
on Inclusion

Acumen means
Business

RSC on iTunes

Free BCE event!

Newsfeed



Pre-Recorded Inclusion Presentations
Watch again on demand @ RSCtv

Accessing Information in Alternative Formats

A guide for lecturers, library and support for learning staff recorded on 7th December 2010.

Productivity, Accessibility and Teaching Tools
recorded on 21st September 2010.

Watch both of these sessions at your leisure from your own computer from our website:

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/rsctv/RSCtv.htm



Keeping an Eye on Inclusion

Join us at forthcoming events to keep you up to date with inclusive practice

Inclusion in eLearning Forum Friday, February 11th 2011

This forum will provide an opportunity to share in examples of good practice across the country with a focus on accessibility considerations in eLearning. Come along and listen to presentations on:

- Using Mobile Technology to Support Inclusion.
- A Journey of e-Inclusion at Forth Valley College.
- Creating Accessible Learning Resources Using the Xerte content creation tool.

For further information and to book your place at this free event:

http://bit.ly/e-inclusionforum_Feb2011

Make IT Accessible by Dolphin Computer Access Friday April 1st

This session will introduce some key universal rules for making reading and learning materials accessible. The course will introduce computer software to assist in making reading and learning materials accessible as specific alternative formats. These formats include large print, MP3 audio, DAISY talking book and Braille. Booking information to follow on our events page @ www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm

Accessible ICT on a Budget and E-safety for Students with Profound and Complex Needs Part 1 on Tuesday May 10th 2011

In collaboration with Scotland's Colleges, the Scottish RSCs and The BRITE Initiative @ <http://events.scotlandscollages.ac.uk/events/show/3831>



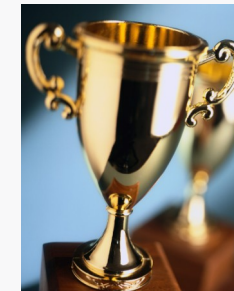
You've got to be in it to win it!

Awarding the very Best of the West

We are often asked "So, which IS the best case study in the west?" Well, we have had at least one case study from each of our supported institutions and you are **ALL** winners in our eyes! That said, this will be our very last call for Best of the West case studies and to mark the end of our highly successful Best of the West theme, we have decided that this year's annual event in June will be slightly different. We are planning an awards ceremony to round off the day, along with the traditional cheese, wine and chat. All the contributions over the past three years will be put forward for the trophies, according to category.

There will be four JISC RSC Innovation in Technology Awards:

- Technology & Business Systems
- Learning and Teaching
- Access & Inclusion
- Learner Services



Be a Winner!

Got an idea for a case study? The deadline for submitting a suggestion for any new case studies is February 18th. Why not have a look at our website and see what clever ideas and innovations your neighbouring institutions have been working on. Be inspired and be in it to win it! Contact us here at the RSC and we'll schedule in a time for a chat about your case study idea. We're always keen to help!

Got an idea for a case study? Contact:

Theresa Duffy, theresa.duffy@glasgow.ac.uk

Best of the West case studies can be found at:
www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/best_of_the_west/BoW.htm



JISC Digital Media in conjunction with the Virtual Training Suite (VTS) have launched two new online tutorials: **Internet for Audio Resources and Internet for Video and Moving Images.**

The free-to-use tutorials have been designed to assist staff and students within the education sector to locate audio and video for use in teaching and learning.

Created as part of the Virtual Training Suite the tutorials have been funded by JISC Advance and can be found on: www.vts.intute.ac.uk/tutorial/





JISCAsk is a service from the RSC Scotland South & West to help staff with queries about using ICT in Learning and Teaching.

If you have a burning question that we can use on our blog send it by email to support@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk with JISCAsk in the subject line and we'll send you a pen drive - JISC for the asking!

Bookmark the JISCAsk blog www.jiscask.blog spot.com



The Digital Economy Act 2010: Implications for UK Colleges and Universities

The Digital Economy Act was passed by Parliament in April 2010. The Act places obligations on those providing internet access services to monitor and report on online copyright infringement such as peer-to-peer sharing and illegal downloading. For information on this and other legal implications for FE & HE, why not subscribe to the JISC Legal monthly newsletter? www.jisclegal.ac.uk/Newsletter.aspx



Topic Briefings go Online
A new initiative underway for 2011 is to put our 20 minute topic briefings online.

Our topic briefings provide an overview of new technologies coming into the mainstream. They describe the benefits and identify the issues and challenges that need to be addressed as they are rolled out and used more widely in Colleges and HEIs.

Topics include:

- ✓ **Copyright & IPR**
- ✓ **e-Assessment**
- ✓ **Emerging Technologies 2011 - 2014**
- ✓ **e-Safety & e-Safeguarding**
- ✓ **e-Portfolios in practice**
- ✓ **Mobile Learning**
- ✓ **Modernising the Curriculum**
- ✓ **Understanding Web 2.0**

5 briefings are currently available online from a new page on our website: rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/topicbriefings/topicbriefings.htm

Meet the New Girl on Campus!

It felt like Santa arrived a little early at Todd Campus last year with the arrival of our lovely new member of staff on the 1st of November.

Grainne Hamilton joins the team as eAdvisor: e-Assessment. Prior to joining the team here at the RSC Scotland South and West, Grainne was the eLearning and Communications Manager for the Scottish Social Services Learning Network North, where she provided leadership on the use of technologies to support the learning and development of the Scottish social services workforce.

Grainne commenced her career in television, having graduated from the University of Birmingham with a BA (Hons) in Drama and Theatre Arts. A move into new media followed her work at the BBC, with roles in web software training and eLearning development for an IT company, then work on a national project supporting uptake of eLearning in Scottish social work education, while based at the University of Edinburgh. Following this, Grainne was based at the University of Strathclyde as the Teaching and Learning Technology Officer, where she led staff engagement with eLearning and e-Assessment across the University. During this role, Grainne worked closely with the team of the influential Re-Engineering Assessment Practices (REAP) project, led by Professor David Nicol.

Grainne is currently meeting with the FE and HE institutions in the RSC SW Scotland remit and will be providing a range of information dissemination, consultancy and training activities to support increased awareness and use of e-Assessment in teaching and learning practices.

If you have a burning e-Assessment question, contact Grainne on 0141 585 002 or email Grainne.Hamilton@glasgow.ac.uk



Grainne Hamilton



Have a look at the e-Assessments from our Bank on Success project which can be freely downloaded and used in either Blackboard or Moodle learning platforms.

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/bank_on_success/examples.htm