

P...P...Pick up a Podcast



For the latest and archived audio and video podcasts from you local RSC, have a look on our website.

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/podcast/Podcasts.htm



New guide: The Effective Practice in a Digital Age

Not sure about the difference between a website and a wiki? A podcast and a sound recording? Or how to best use them for teaching and learning?

The Effective Practice in a Digital Age is a guide to technology-enhanced learning and teaching. It takes those new to using technologies in their teaching practice and those ready for the next step, on a journey to using technology appropriately and effectively.

Accompanying the guide is a suite of online resources in the 'Effective Practice Resource Exchange'. This currently holds video case studies depicting themes related to technology-enhanced practice, a selection of practitioners voices caught on camera, extended versions of the publications case studies for use in staff development and other institutional contexts, and podcasts expanding on key messages found within.

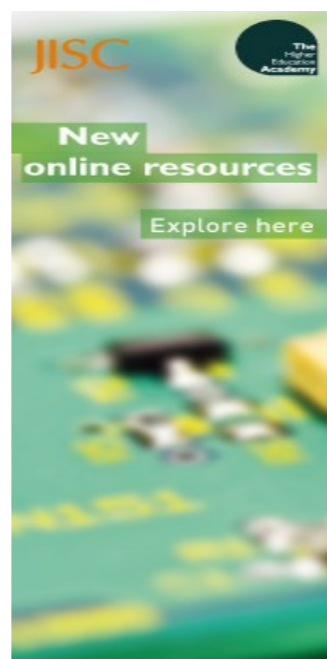
The publication can be ordered in hard copy or downloaded in PDF and accessible text-only formats. All resources associated with the publication can be downloaded for use in educational contexts.

To download the publication in a range of formats visit:

www.jisc.ac.uk/practice

To download or view items in the Resource Exchange

www.jisc.ac.uk/resourceexchange



In ConTact

Newsletter of the RSC
Scotland South & West
September 2009

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RSC Scotland S&W Manager, Fionnuala Carmichael and the team, ready for a new term

A warm welcome back to the beginning of another academic year. Where did the summer go? Following on from our very successful **'Realising the Benefits'** event held at the Glasgow Science Centre in June 2009, the RSC Scotland South & West theme for the year is the **Best of the West 2010**.

The event was about showcasing the best of the west with regard to innovative practice, harnessing the use of technology. With so many exciting examples of how technology is being used in the colleges and HEIs that we support, we have decided to focus on capturing & sharing developments that we've been involved in, through case studies. These will be showcased in a new section on our website, organised by institution. This initiative will culminate in a **'Best of the West'** event in May 2010.

New initiatives for 2009 include the development of seminars for senior and middle managers on current issues, such as the green agenda and the launch of an institutional accessibility self-evaluation service. This service will allow managers to explore the ways accessibility and inclusion can be integrated into mainstream teaching, learning and institutional processes.

The RSC team will be continuing to provide a comprehensive range of support for all staff, which includes online initiatives and resources such as JISCAsk!; RSCtv; Podcasts; training, as well as strategic advice and support in all technology related areas.



Best of the West banners created for the "Realising the Benefits" event, June 2009



The RSC have put together a varied programme of training for the new academic session. We will continue to offer a range of in-house workshops delivered by the RSC team and in addition we have a number of external trainers offering specialist expertise. These include a workshop introducing delegates to virtual worlds, as well as a number of workshops on offer from JISC Digital Media. www.jiscdigitalmedia.ac.uk/

In addition to our face-to-face workshops, we will continue with our lunchtime RSCtv webinar series and we are rolling out our successful pilot e-Assessment workshops, **"Bank on Success"**. Participants receive training on the creation of pedagogically sound e-Assessments whilst also contributing to a bank of e-Assessments that can be shared with the sector.

New this year is the **Managing Digital Resources Workshop** which looks at the benefits and issues associated with using digital repositories, as well as giving delegates hands-on experience of a using digital repository. Full details about the workshops on offer from the RSC can be found on the events & training section of our website: www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm

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RSC
Regional Support Centre
Scotland South & West
Funded by
JISC



A series of 20 minute lunch-time webinars which deliver training sessions straight to your desktop. Broadcasts are also recorded and archived on our website.

Have a look at our current schedule or view previous broadcasts:

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

SPICEWORKS™ THE IT NETWORK

Looking for a one stop solution to your IT management issues?

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Spiceworks is completely free... and you can get started in under 5 minutes!
www.spiceworks.com

If you would like to talk about some of the network management features of Spiceworks, call **Mark Clark** at the RSC on 0141 585 0022 or email **Mark** at:

m.clark@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk

For updates on events and booking information for all our training, go to our website - look and book!

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm

First hand knowledge of Second Life : A new practical JISC guide to virtual teaching



The Piping Centre Glasgow, GCU Island in Second Life

Image courtesy of Kathy Trinder, GCU

Like many lecturers, you may feel that your first life is so hectic that you simply don't have time to explore a second one. You've heard about Second Life, have a vague notion of what it is and would like to find out about using it as a teaching tool, but just don't know how to get started.

If this sounds familiar, help is at hand. **'Getting Started in Second Life'** is JISC's new guide that answers some common questions in Second Life; what the rules of the world are, how to plan lessons and how best to help students use it effectively for learning.

Written by lecturers for lecturers, the guide is designed to help overcome those initial hurdles of getting started in using Second Life to support learning and teaching.

While virtual worlds are not going to be for everyone, it's important to understand the genuine pros and cons of teaching in a virtual environment rather than getting a skewed picture from the media.

To download 'Getting Started in Second Life' or to order a paper copy, go to:

www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/documents/gettingstartedsecondlife

e-Inclusion Scotland '09



Hosted by the two Scottish RSCs in collaboration with JISC TechDis, the e-Inclusion Scotland '09 event in May 2009 saw over 70 delegates from FE and HE coming together from across Scotland to be inspired and motivated by the superb speakers and a vast array of assistive technology resources on display in the **"Inclusion Zone"**. Experts from assistive technology companies were on hand to demonstrate equipment and provide information to delegates throughout the day and during the **"Ask the Experts"** session.

Keynote speaker, EA Draffan from the Learning Societies Lab/LexDis project at Southampton University, challenged delegates to think about how they can improve ease of use and accessibility of online teaching materials. EA Draffan highlighted the LexDis project as a source of advice and guidance for those who are using or developing on-line learning materials based on advice from students using assistive technologies. For more information visit www.lexdis.org

The afternoon keynote message was delivered by Alison Cox from the BRITE Initiative. Alison encouraged delegates to prepare for the decade ahead by auditing for inclusion within their institutions. She stressed the importance of adopting inclusive values into organisational mind sets and considering aspects of curriculum design to ensure that inclusion is embedded in intuitional infrastructures. For more information visit <http://brite.ac.uk/>

Missed the event? Why not have a look at our event retrospective, check out the presentations and watch a short video of the photographs!
www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/e-inclusion_scotland/index.htm

25 years of World History in Film & Digital Images

£2.5 million in funding from JISC has been used to create an unrivalled online image library, comprising over 500 hours of film and 56,000 photos, which will be available free of charge to all UK FE & HE students and academics from Summer 2010.

The key emphasis is on bringing to life "Our History" in particular, film and digital images which capture local history, UK history and world history over the last 25 years. From Gorbachev's accession to power in the Soviet Union in 1985 to the financial crisis of 2009, and including powerful raw footage of the 9/11 attacks as well as coverage of key issues such as deforestation and global warming.

View sample films & images on the Digital Images for Education website www.imagesforeducation.org.uk/



eAssessment Scotland is the first annual Scottish eAssessment conference and is a chance for staff from across the sectors to share their insights as to how eAssessment is being used to improve the student experience. The theme for this year's conference is 'Strategies across Sectors'. Keynote speakers and individual presentations will highlight innovation and best practice from institutions all across Scotland and the conference will host the Scottish eAssessment Awards, which recognises achievements in the categories of Formative eAssessment, Summative eAssessment, ePortfolio/ePDP, Mobile eAssessment, eAssessment Administration and Innovation

The one-day event, at the Hilton hotel in Dundee on Friday the 25th of September, is free to attend, so book early to avoid disappointment. For more information and to reserve your place, go to www.e-assessment-scotland.org/

NewsFeed



NewsFeed is a fortnightly online publication service from the two JISC Regional Support Centres in Scotland to keep the FE & HE community informed about the latest ICT related news, events, resources and training.

Newsfeed has been designed to minimise the amount of email traffic you get by collating interesting and relevant information and presenting it concisely with electronic links to the full articles - all this delivered straight to your inbox every other Tuesday afternoon!

To subscribe, email us with the subject Newsfeed support@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk

