



Newest Study Centre Opens: in Sevenoaks



Mary Hayden and Jeff Thompson with participants at the first Sevenoaks School Study Centre unit

December 2007 saw the opening of the newest Study Centre link to be established for the teaching of units of the Bath MA programme; this time in the UK, at Sevenoaks School in Kent. Having previously offered the IB Diploma for many years as an alternative to A level, Sevenoaks School has more recently dropped A level to focus exclusively on the IB Diploma at the 16-19 age range.

The Sevenoaks/Bath MA Study Centre link ties in with the IB Teacher Award, whereby those with experience of teaching one or more of the IB programmes may combine completion of specified MA units and associated IB-related assignments and dissertation topic with working towards the IB Teacher Award (see <http://www.bath.ac.uk/education/ma/ed/IBTA.html> for further details)

Education in an International Context was the first unit to be offered at this new Study Centre, attracting participants not only from Sevenoaks School itself, but also from other schools in the south of England, the Isle of Man, Germany and as far away as Ghana. As ever, units offered at Sevenoaks are open to all who are eligible to participate in the MA programme, and who are able to be in the right place at the right time (see page 7 for details of the next unit, planned for April). Thanks to Katy Ricks, Head of Sevenoaks School, Nick Alchin and all Sevenoaks colleagues for impressive arrangements in planning and organising this first visit: we look forward to many more!

A personal view by Ian Kerr

Time-out to Think

I greatly admire those people who seem to be able to read quantities of educational material, keeping them right up-to-date, and still cope with the daily tasks which we teachers and administrators have to manage. No matter how many parents they have to see, essays they have to mark, lunchtime duties they have to cover and working parties they have to attend, meaningful reading (and like some readers, studying for a further degree) is fitted into their week. I was never organized enough, and felt lucky if I achieved more than a page before falling asleep at the end of the day.

I have always had a passionate interest in international schooling since my first overseas appointment and, while constrained by daily school routines, I really wanted to stay abreast of new thinking, incorporate new ideas and use my experience of teaching in such schools to contribute to the development of an education system which benefited those children who follow a parent from job to job, from country to country. But there was never enough time. I needed to get internal examination papers planned first or have a look at Chapter Five before I taught it the next day.

‘I really wanted to stay abreast of new thinking, incorporate new ideas’

Much excitement was generated twenty years ago when I saw, by chance, information about a new M.Ed. being offered at the University of Bath. The fact that it included a module on international education was what really caught my eye. That course component was a first as far as I was concerned, and probably was a first, anywhere. However, I did not raise the matter

with my wife for several days as I was not expecting such a positive response to taking a year out. She was pregnant with our first child, and selling her the idea of having neither of our salaries for twelve months while we lived on our savings for a year, I expected to be tough. Fortunately our savings were from several

years on Japanese (international school) salaries, and lasted well when we were back in England. She was very supportive and Bath is such a lovely city in which to spend a year and raise a new baby, with or without the added intellectual stimulation of a second degree course.



Ian Kerr retired as the headmaster of The International School of Penang (Uplands) in August 2007, having spent forty years in international education, mostly in Asia. He has settled in Malaysia and is staying in touch with schools in that region through invitations to be part of accreditation and IBDP authorisation visits.

‘The chance to read, discuss, listen, debate and reflect without job distractions was marvellous.’

I appreciate that for many colleagues taking a year off to study is not possible, but I have to recommend it. The chance to read, discuss, listen, debate and reflect without job distractions was marvellous. I had the time to put my experiences up to that point into perspective, without the pressure of lesson planning or homework grading. It was a tremendous year. Not only did I have a new son and the opportunity to get beaten at squash frequently by Dr Jim Harvey but, at that time, the IB Examinations Office was just upstairs in the Department of Education and I was able to pop up there while I put together my dissertation – research into the International Baccalaureate Diploma (another passion of mine). And who better as my supervisor than Prof Jeff Thompson, who was then involved in one of his several roles with the IB, and genuinely interested in my Diploma examination findings.

A personal view by Ian Kerr

Prof Ken Austwick set me a timetabling assignment for which I spent hours and hours working on the University's mainframe computer as I grappled with Keith Johnson's 'Timetabler' programme, nowhere near as advanced and polished as it is today. I have always been very grateful for that enforced knowledge as, by the time I finished, I was able to create a full school timetable using the computer only, and have done so ever since.

'International education has progressed'

A big attraction for me twenty years ago was the international education module. In fact, when we all met for the first time we were told that it was not to be offered, or was to be somehow diluted (I cannot recall exactly) and the M.Ed. in Educational Management was less international than I had hoped for. However, it was an incredibly beneficial course because it provided time-out to think, read and write, which I had not had before and have not had since. That was all in 1988-89, about three years before the start of the Centre for the study of Education in an International Context (CEIC). The vision to create a Centre to forge strong links with the teachers of international schools was, I believe, groundbreaking. It serves a real need, and the success of the CEIC is a credit to those who created it.

Such links would have been appreciated when I first went overseas from the U.K. in 1968; while there were some connections between various international schools (for example, through the International Schools Association) one felt very much in isolation: certainly 'way over' in Yokohama, where I was then teaching, I just did my British thing in a school that I felt was very American (but thoroughly enjoyed) and we had little to do with expatriate schools outside of those in Japan. The idea of a curriculum that might serve the needs of an international student body was only just being introduced to schools as the IB Diploma. The students were mostly of European origin and the curriculum totally Euro-centred.

International education has progressed, thank goodness. I have not taught in Europe for many years but nowadays, certainly in Asia, the diversity of the schools' enrolments requires teachers who are able to do other than their 'British thing'. In Penang, my former school has about 30% Asian children whose first language is not English; over the last eighteen years this group has been dominated, in turn, by Taiwanese, Japanese, Indonesians, Thai and, most recently, by Korean children who leave their homeland to learn English. If one includes the Malaysian host nationals who generally speak very good English, the Asian contingent rises to 60%.

Fortunately, international schools in the region are taking advantage of the ever-increasing opportunities for professional development (face to face and through the internet) to help them to adapt to changing needs. There are many teachers' courses offered in our area now, which I assume take into account teaching to a student body very different from that of those earlier decades. CEIC, I note, has study centres in Singapore, Thailand and China and I am delighted to see the increasing collaboration between CEIC and the IB.

'I am delighted to see the increasing collaboration between CEIC and the IB.'

Many years later, I still appreciate that wonderful period which gave time to explore my chosen field of work. Having returned to harness, however, until last August I was back to one page at bedtime. Maybe 'retirement' will provide me with the opportunity to reflect and research once again.

Do you have an international education-related Personal View you would like to share with Intercom readers? If so, email Mary Hayden on m.c.hayden@bath.ac.uk

CEIC AROUND THE WORLD



Dubai Study Centre group with Dr Chris James
November 2007



Dr Chris James and Dr Paul Denley meeting with a
delegation of Iraqi Ministers of Education in London,
January 2008

Study Centre Update

Recent months have seen further successful teaching visits to our Study Centres. In October, John Lowe was at the International School of Brussels to teach 'Assessment'. This is one of the units that make up the profile for the IB Teacher Award, and we are hopeful that some of the participants in Brussels will be looking to use the credits gained by successful completion of this unit for that purpose.

November saw a visit to the New International School of Thailand (NIST) by Paul Toolan to teach 'Leading and Managing Educational Innovation'. This unit received a very positive response from the participants. This was also the first time that we had worked with our new local coordinator in Bangkok, Simon Scoones, and we were very appreciative of all Simon's hard work in dealing with the inevitable practical issues that need to be anticipated and organised on these teaching visits.

In November Dr Chris James travelled to the English College Dubai to teach the Learning and Managing Educational Organisations unit (see photo above).

Late 2007/early 2008 also saw the first visits to our new Study Centre at Sevenoaks School, UK. This is an exciting venture as we plan to teach units linked to the IB Teacher Award scheme (see story on front page). We also have agreed dates and units for our Study Centre at the English College, Dubai, and at the International School of Brussels. In addition, dates have been agreed for teaching visits to our Shanghai and Bangkok Study Centres, and for a second unit to be offered at Sevenoaks. A new Study Centre is to be launched at Munich International School in August 2008. Please see our website (www.bath.ac.uk/ceic/studycentres.html) for updates on all planned Study Centre activities.

I would like to end by saying a special 'Thank You' to all our local coordinators, without whose considerable efforts none of our visits would be possible.

Mike Fertig, Study Centre Coordinator

See page seven for details of
Study Centre plans.

CEIC AROUND THE WORLD

A pioneering new degree for 2008: BA in Education and International Development

Over the past two years Dr Keith Bishop and Dr Harriet Marshall (of CEIC), along with other colleagues at Bath, have been developing a new undergraduate degree in education and international development. The degree offers students units in the Department of Education and the Department of Economics and International Development. This is the first time that an undergraduate degree has offered students the opportunity to bring together education and international development in this way, preparing them to become competent and reflective actors in the educational field of a global society.

The course is structured to develop students' understandings of education in general, and in different country contexts. A range of units are offered, including gender, disadvantage and education; development policy and practice; education about democracy; non-formal education and education for lifelong learning; and technology, education and development. Students are offered the opportunity to choose options as the course progresses (for example they are encouraged to take an optional placement year in an appropriate

international or national context), and all students conduct their own research on a chosen topic for their dissertation.

This unique course is aimed at both home and overseas students from diverse backgrounds, and will cover a range of relevant themes for those wishing to critically engage with the role of education in various contexts. Students will be taught by experienced lecturers known for their research in these areas. With a small intake of students each year there is a low student to staff ratio. We particularly welcome overseas and mature students, students with the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and anyone with a keen interest in the relationship between education, democracy and education.

See <http://www.bath.ac.uk/education/internationaldev/apply.html> for further details (and for further details of our second new undergraduate degree in Child, Youth and Education Studies), or contact Emily Merko (em264@bath.ac.uk).

ALLIANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



ISTANBUL, 24 - 26 October 2008

**International Education: a Bridge to
International Understanding**

Send proposals to ceic@bath.ac.uk by 31 March 2008

For further details see the AIE website:

www.intedalliance.org

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/ceic>

CONGRATULATIONS!

to all who graduated in July 2007, as follows:

MA in Education

Elaine Brain
Allison Clark
Fathima Dahlan
Roisin Davison
Terence Hazell
Paul Middleton
Joshua Roberts
Nichola Rodgers
Andreas Savvides
Philip Sharp
Karen Tuckwell
Susan Young

MA in Ed (Environmental Education)

Anna Christodoulidou
Georgia Constantinou
David Harrison
Despina Panayi

MA in Ed (Educational Management)

Anne Bell
Leelavathy Dahal
David Elstone
Jaana Lundholm
Tsepo Matlejane
Eleni Nicolaou
Gillian Richards
Ian Tate

MA in Ed (English Language Teaching)

Ahmed Mouneimene
Dating Yao

MA in Ed (International Education)

Derrick Devenport
Martin Peel

MA in Ed (Sports Coaching)

Ana Bruni
Luciana De Martin Silva

MA in Ed (Learning and Teaching)

Emma Wright

Master of Philosophy

John Hare

Doctor of Education (EdD)

Samia Al Farra
Rosalyn Ezra
John Phillips
Daniel Tau

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Massoma Al-Ajmi	Louise Poulson (posthumously awarded)
Richard Caffyn	Sian Rees
Min-Cheng Lin	Hong Qin Zhao
Wayne Mackintosh	

TEACHING IN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Workshop offered in conjunction with Teachers International Consultancy (TIC)

11-13 April 2008

Sessions to include the following:

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| ❖ Defining international schools | ❖ Working as an international educator |
| ❖ International curriculum programmes | ❖ Schools and their communities |
| ❖ Professional and personal challenges | ❖ The international school child |
| ❖ Your career in international education | |

For further details, see: www.ticrecruitment.com or e-mail: ceic@bath.ac.uk

IB RESEARCH TEAM NEWS

International Education Research Database (IERD)

The International Education Research Database (IERD) is a free bibliographic resource for the international education community; created, hosted and maintained by the International Baccalaureate. It can be accessed at <http://research.ibo.org> or from the main International Baccalaureate homepage (www.ibo.org). It aims to:

1. define the field of international education; and
2. offer a valuable resource to a wide range of researchers.

The IERD currently holds nearly 5,000 citations about international education with emphasis on IB-related literature. As a referencing resource, in common with university library catalogues, the British Library catalogue and the British Education Index, the IERD does not hold actual publications. Nonetheless, it contains nearly 500 links to a variety of online resources and lists many sources, such as conference papers and unpublished theses. The IERD has existed as an online service since 2002, and was extensively redeveloped in 2007. It is now available in a more robust, accessible and user-friendly format. This means that users can now register, enabling them to save and email their searches and be named as IERD contributors if they submit new citations. In fact, the IERD already has over 700 registered users from all over the world and receives, on average, 1,200 visits and 6,600 page views a month.

We hope that readers of Intercom will find this resource useful, and easy to use. We would also value ongoing contributions to the database. For more information and enquiries, please contact Dr. Anna Simandiraki at anna.simandiraki@ibo.org

STUDY CENTRE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

International School of Brussels: 22 - 25 March 2008:
Leading And Managing Schools And Colleges

Sevenoaks Study Centre, Kent: 12 - 13 April 2008 and 25-26 May 2008:
Understanding Learners And Learning

The English College, Dubai: 24 - 27 April 2008: Education In An International Context

Shanghai Study Centre: 9 - 12 May 2008: Leading And Managing Schools And Colleges

Munich International School: 11 - 14 August 2008: Education in an International Context

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION SUMMER SCHOOL 2008

MA in Education

Week 1 (30 June - 4 July)

Dissertation Support

Week 2 (7 - 11 July)

Curriculum Studies

Description of the English Language
Education in an International Context
Leading and Managing Human Resources in
Education
Research Methods in Education

Week 3 (14 - 18 July)

Assessment

Environmental Education: Philosophy and Purpose
Language Teaching Methodology and Curriculum
Leading and Managing International Schools
Understanding Learners and Learning

Week 4 (21 - 25 July)

Education, Globalisation and Change
Leading and Managing Educational Innovation
Research Methods in Education
Talk and Learning
Technologies for Learning

Doctor of Education (EdD)

27 June - 4 July

International Education: Philosophy and Practice

4 July - 11 July

Educational Management, Leadership and
Administration
Educational Policy: Theory and Practice

11 July - 18 July

Learning about Learning
Sociocultural and Activity Theory Research

Summer School Contact Details

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Participation in Summer School includes:

- ❖ Access to library and other University facilities
- ❖ Accommodation available on campus
- ❖ A number of additional seminars open to all Summer School participants
- ❖ A one-day research student conference (for MPhil, MRes, PhD and EdD students)
- ❖ Social activities

For further details on the 2008 Summer School please see:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/education/summer>

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