



# Newsletter 01

*The Engaging Diversity Development Partnership has now started its programme of work for Action 2. This started on the 1st July 2005 and will continue until December 2007.*

*Our Modules include:*

*Disability*

*Age*

*Religious Belief*

*Gender*

*Sexual Orientation*

*The Welsh Language*

#### Contact Us

+44 01492 871111

engaging.diversity@btcgroup.com

www.engagingdiversity.com

BTC Group Ltd.

Oxford House Oxford Road

Llandudno North Wales LL30 1DH

#### NEW PARTNERS

During the summer the DP has met with the Welsh Language Board who have agreed to join the DP as Tertiary partners. We welcome their contribution to the bilingual elements of all modules and, in particular, helping develop the Welsh Language module. There are still opportunities for other organisations to join as partners, and if they would like to do this, they should contact Peter Butler at Engaging Diversity will.

#### DEVELOPING MODULES

The first major task of the DP is to develop the first version of each of the six online awareness raising modules. Work has already started on the concept design and scripting, and the first release for consultation is due to take place at the end of September. The DP intends to complete the first version of each new module by the end of the year.

#### LAUNCHING THE E-COMMUNITY

Now that Action 2 has started, the Equalities Network, an e-

community for diversity professionals is being relaunched. There is a new look and feel to the community, and to Engaging Diversity DP as a whole. We hope you like the new designs, and that you can now contribute ideas and feedback into the Network. If you are not already a partner and would like to contribute to an e-community, sharing information and ideas on diversity issues, then please contact us.

### RESEARCH

The Research Institute for Enhancing Learning, a part of the School of Education at the University of Wales Bangor will take the lead in organising research into the effectiveness of the online modules and e-communities that are being piloted by the DP. If you're interested in staying in touch with this research, or contributing to it, then please contact us.

### TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

As a part of the ESF Equal

Programme, the Engaging Diversity DP has teamed up with 3 other Equal DPs. These are in Poland, Portugal and Slovakia and together we have formed a transnational partnership. Each of the DPs is making use of the Internet for innovative approaches to learning and we hope to share our ideas and experiences of online mentoring and the use of e-communities.

### JOINING OUR TEAM

During the summer, BTC Group, the lead partner in the DP, has recruited three new members into our web team. We welcome Faruq, Callen and John, all of whom will be involved in developing and deploying the modules, and in supporting users of the e-communities. We now have a talented and creative web team to help achieve the DPs objectives.

### CONTACT US

For more information about the DP, or the progress in our project, please contact us.

*There are 5 key strategic objectives for the Development Partnership.*

*They are,*

- Provide accessible learning that encourages more people to take advantage of new technologies*
- Develop learning that engages as well as just informs people*
- Find new ways of networking and communicating through e-communities*
- Create leading-edge training materials on diversity issues*
- Enable partners to develop and share best practice.*