



Newsletter 02

The Engaging Diversity Development Partnership has been focussed on developing 6 e-learning modules. The modules are each about 45 minutes long and cover Disabilities, Gender, Age, the Welsh Language, Sexual Orientation and Religious Belief. There have also been 2 meetings of partners on 26th of November 2005 and again on the 3^d of February 2006, in Llandindod Wells in mid-Wales, where partners have been able to get to know each other, discuss the project and review the progress of the modules.

Our Modules include:

Disability

Age

Religious Belief

Gender

Sexual Orientation

The Welsh Language

DEVELOPING MODULES

Four of the scripts, Gender, Disability, Age and Welsh Language, have been available for previewing on the Equalities Network since December. Great feedback has been received and a focus group was established to discuss the Disability Module in more depth. This approach has proved to be successful in creating a consistent and powerful message.

During the 2nd DP meeting, partners were able to view an updated first lesson of the Disability Module which included images and music, brought together into a 'documentary style'. This was approved and there was a

Contact Us

+44 01492 871111

engaging.diversity@btcgroup.com

www.engagingdiversity.com

BTC Group Ltd.

Oxford House Oxford Road

Llandudno North Wales LL30 1DH

consensus that the focus group was the way forward in order to develop the other modules. It is intended that the Disability Module will be available at the end of February 2006 for roll-out to our partner organisations.

EQUALITIES NETWORK

This e-community has now been operating since the start of the project and is being used more frequently by partners. There are now plans to establish other e-communities to support 'Equalities Champions' within our partner organisations. The Equalities Network discussion board is a good place for partners to communicate and share their ideas on diversity issues as well as keeping abreast of project activities and outcomes. We hope to extend the range of features available in the Equalities Network and provide more opportunities to discuss equality and diversity issues.

TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

There has been an unforeseen delay in approving the Transnational Partner Agreement with Poland, Portugal and Slovakia. Once this is achieved we are looking forward embarking on our work programme and sharing our ideas & experiences of online mentoring and the use of e-communities with our transnational partners.

RESEARCH

A methodology for the programme evaluation has been prepared which adopts an innovative approach to researching the experiences of the participants who undertake the e-learning modules. The effectiveness of promoting individual learning, cultural and organisation change in respect of diversity and equity issues will be researched. This research method combines several techniques which can serve as separate valid studies and

provide different perspectives on the experiences of the participants and the effectiveness of the modules and e-communities.

Much progress has been made during the autumn and in the early part of 2006 to produce the e-learning modules and establish the e-communities. We are all looking forward now to the roll-out of the modules and to start the research into their effectiveness.