

ALDinHE Annual Report, June 2022 Report from the ALDinHE Mentoring Group

As of November 2021: List working group members and roles:

Chair: Sandra Sinfield

Consultant Co-Chair: Steve Briggs

Liaison with other ALDinHE working groups

Recognition - **TBC**

JLDinHE - alicja.syska@plymouth.ac.uk

LearnHigher - jennie.dettmer@beds.ac.uk

Conference Steering group - Kate.Swinton@northampton.ac.uk

#Take 5

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Mentoring and Networking directory

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Communities of Practice:

LD Research

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Neural Divergence:

Karen Welton & Jennie Dettmer

Leadership and Management in LD

Carina.Buckley@solent.ac.uk

Main focuses for 2021/22

#Take5: Monthly blog on LD topics - also mentor those new to blogging.

Published 2021-22:

Sept: Kennedy NTU - 63 - Design Sprints

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2021/09/29/take5-63-design-sprints-for-developmental-learning/>

Oct: Morley & Hillman - 64 - JLDHE reading communities

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2021/10/28/take5-64-reading-communities-and-jldhe/>

Nov: Holley & Biggins - 65 - Digital education and the wellbeing chasm

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2021/11/25/take5-65-wellbeing-the-chasm-between-student-s-expectations-and-institutional-provision/>

Dec: Buckley & Coulson - 66 - Leadership and management:

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2021/12/09/take5-66-influencing-university-strategy-and-vision-or-at-least-trying-to/>

Jan: Alicja Syska - 67 - The JLDHE Digi-switch compendium:

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/01/27/take5-67-the-jldhe-compendium-a-receipt-for-success/>

Feb: Ed Bickle & Ralitsa Kantcheva - It's a collaborative affair - on the vCoP - 68 -

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/02/24/take5-68-its-a-collaborative-affair-reflecting-on-success/>

March: #Take5 supplemental - Collaboration Symposium - 69

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/03/03/take5-69-talon-and-take5-get-collaborative/>

March: #Take5 - Inclusion and LD - 70

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/03/30/take5-70-inclusion-and-learning-development/>

April: #71 - Gilly Salmon - 71

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/04/28/take5-71-gilly-salmon-five-steps-forward/>

May #72 Aimee Merrydew - 72

<https://lmutake5.wordpress.com/2022/05/26/take5-72-poetry-and-pedagogy-using-blackout-poetry-to-build-students-academic-reading-literacies/>

In active development:

Daisy Abbott - the quest - June - #73

Lee Fallin LD and MOOCs - July - #74.

Mentoring Programme

The Mentoring Documentation was developed and refined - and a Mentoring Pilot is currently underway - ready for evaluation and formal reporting 2022/23.

The Mentoring Team has also developed the CeM: a mentoring certificate to be evidenced and validated by ALDinHE - following the successful implementation of the pilot and when the full mentoring programme is under way. **Expectation:** should be based on more than one significant mentoring experience; at least one mentoring experience through ALDinHE scheme; both need to focus on mentoring in an LD context. Mentors from the pilot project who have also mentored in a different context will be encouraged to apply for pilot of the recognition after the Mentoring Scheme pilot. Application in line with CeP and CeLP, but shorter as evidence from the Mentoring Scheme can be used.

'Mentoring & Networking Directory'

This directory is a development of ALDinHE's original 'expertise directory' to promote sharing of good practice and networking opportunities for the ALDinHE community. The mentoring and networking directory has been redeveloped to clarify who may

contribute to the directory, based on experience and area(s) of expertise.

Membership will be reviewed biannually and mentoring arrangements will align with guidance from the mentoring scheme. **Work is still ongoing to make technical changes to the ALDinHE website to showcase members of the directory and to improve search functionality.**

Communities of Practice: self organising CoP with a special interest:

LD research CoP (Ian Johnson, lead)

- Research CoP is going strong with regular meetings - and collaborative outputs: Paper in Journal of University Teaching and Learning Practice, Special Issue, Collaboration in HE ([JUTLP V18 Iss7](#)) - and participation in International Symposium on Collaboration in HE; book chapter submitted; and [Take 5 blog](#) post written.
- Has developed synergies/more co-working with ALDinHE's research group for 2022/23 - including joining Panel reviewing funding applications.

Neurodiversity and Inclusivity CoP (Jennie Detter & Karen Welton)

- The CoP meets bi-monthly and has had six meetings since its creation in June 2021, with an average of 45 attendees per meeting.
- Presenters have detailed the neurodiversity training that takes place in their institutions.
- The community has also looked at the importance of inclusive language.
- Moving forward we hope to look at how to gain funding for creating open access neurodiversity training resources.

Leadership and management CoP (Carina Buckley)

New CoP - launched by Carina Buckley and Kate Coulson via ICALLD and LD@3 webinars and #Take5 blog.

Four meetings to date and a fifth booked, with 52 members signed up to the distribution list.

Priorities for the coming year:

Continue with ongoing projects:

- #Take5 continues.
- CeM: review pilot and next steps.
- Mentoring and Networking Directory - historical terms reviewed and replaced - populate new site on ALDinHE website. Hopefully, launch and review.
- CoPs: continue - and validated through MG and reporting up to ALDinHE SG.
- Responding to 'other' mentoring requests - eg Mentoring through ALDinHE Conference proposals.

Budget (State any spends or planned spends)

Query: is there a cost with respect to hosting relevant spaces for the CeM and the Mentoring and Networking threads of our work?

Funding bid: The Neurodiversity CoP may bid for funding for resource development.