

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Another success in York - to be continued in Bath in 1996

Our second Annual Conference, again held at the University of York in April, attracted some 140 delegates and provided a forum for those involved in sandwich course education and training to share experiences on many aspects connected with work based learning. Over the past two years we have developed a successful format to the conference making use of a workshop system allowing a significant exchange of information and ideas. Indeed Mary Harris circulated a workshop evaluation questionnaire to all delegates at York and the overwhelming majority of returns were favourable on points such as expectations from the workshop; focus/content and level of the workshop.

In summary, of 112 workshop evaluation forms returned 86 (77%) recommended that the topic should be addressed again at the 1996 Annual Conference.

Following on from this it is intended to develop topics further for next year's event. ASET is publishing the Conference Proceedings from York 1995 which will provide a great deal of information on twenty five workshop sessions and will be developed at future conferences. At the Conference in York we were able to offer some light entertainment after the conference dinner. Mr Brian Hyde (IBM retired) gave us a most amusing talk on his experiences as a graduate recruiter during his time with IBM, and also on his previous life as a national serviceman. Thank you, Brian, we may call on you again.

To attract delegates at the Annual Conference to our recently held LEONARDO Dissemination Seminar, we decided to hold a competition for the best Limerick, the first line being 'There Once Was A Placement Tutor ...' - see below for the results.

Another change to our programme this year, was to hold the 1994 Essay Winner's Presentation Ceremony immediately before the keynote speech by David Pierce. The winner, Matthew Taylor of Cranfield University received his prize of a £500 cheque and an engraved rose bowl from Brian Hyde.

We are now making plans for the third Annual Conference and, whilst the University of York has proved to be a successful venue, we have decided to change the location to the University of Bath. Not only have we changed the venue, but we have extended the length of the conference to three days (see ASET Diary), and we have done this deliberately for two reasons: firstly, we intend to hold the ASET Annual General Meeting during one afternoon and we hope this will attract more members to attend, and secondly; we have found that some of the workshops held at previous conferences have been so successful that, with an extra day, we can run some sessions twice. In addition of course, with the extra evening delegates will be able to network with colleagues in discussion about sandwich courses in the bar or pump-room!

(The Conference Proceedings: Learning in the Workplace 1995 are being sent to all conference delegates and are available at £7.50 from the ASET Office).



Top - a welcome tea break between workshop sessions at the Annual Conference and above some of the ASET team Mary Harris, Malcolm Brewer (centre) and Brian Firth (conferences and seminars committee)

There was once a placement tutor ...

After our Annual Conference Dinner we set our delegates the task of completing the Limerick, "There once was a placement tutor..." which would reap the prize of a free place at our LEONARDO Dissemination Seminar. The competition resulted in a total of 19 entries (excluding those which were unprintable!). As expected, there were various second line rhymes such as 'scooter', 'computer' and 'future'. More ingenious were the offerings, 'Who was ever so hard to get through to', and 'Who some thought was really astute or'. After much deliberating, our judge, Brian Hyde, decided the winning Limerick was:

*'There once was a placement tutor
Who really did not have a clue to
The way things were done
Or the way jobs were won -
In the end they just had to shoot her.'*

by David Tattersall from Nottingham Trent University.

Whilst our congratulations go to David, we feel we must commend Alan Smith for his unique Limerick which, instead of winning a free place at the LEONARDO seminar, he will be attending the event as 'Mary's Assistant' undertaking reception duties. We feel we can't embarrass Alan by printing his Limerick, but believe us, it was, well different.

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