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Beyond Education for Conformity



The second ATL Scotland annual lecture was delivered by Professor Walter Humes of the, University of the West of Scotland on the 11th November 2009 in Edinburgh. In his lecture entitled "Beyond education for conformity", Professor Humes argued that, the terms of the education debate have been too narrow and have failed to connect sufficiently with the major social, political and economic issues facing the early 21st century. Following the lecture a lively Q & A session was held.

ATL Future looks Bright!

Following a fantastic turn out at the ATL "Assert Yourself" event held in Edinburgh in October 2009, student and newly qualified members agreed to help us establish the first ATL future working group in Scotland.

At the inaugural meeting of the group which took place in Glasgow on the 5th December, participants discussed the way forward for ATL future in Scotland and also nominated student and newly qualified members to the ATL annual conference in 2010.

Commenting on the meeting, newly qualified teacher Stephanie Newbould said "It was good to catch up with everyone again and discuss issues that were of mutual interest to those of us who are new to teaching"



Introducing some members of the newly formed ATL Scotland future group: from left to right: **Stephanie Newbould, Paul Campbell, Grace Long & Robert Kirk**

To join the ATL future network email: mhiggins@atl.org.uk or for further information on ATL's student and probationer member's events email: Scotland@atl.org.uk

Upcoming events

**"CPD with a difference"
Tour of Our Dynamic Earth
Edinburgh, Wednesday
17th March 2010 – 6.00 for
6.30pm**



This unique CPD opportunity will be restricted to 30 members.

We sincerely hope that you will join us for a bite to eat after the tour as there is as much to be learnt from the informal part of the evening by talking to one's peers as there is during the tour.

**ATL Future Event
Renfield Centre, Bath
Street, Glasgow
Saturday 24th April 2010**

- Time management
- If I knew then what I know now! What my Probation year was like
- Creating Calm - Practical tools to combat stress, enhance classroom management and discipline

The seminar is free for Student and Newly Qualified ATL Members and will commence at 10.00am.

To reserve a place at any of the events email Scotland@atl.org.uk or call 0131 272 2748.

Executive Member Update by Dr. Alistair McPherson

As I am writing this at the turn of the year my thoughts inevitably turn to what promises to be a challenging time for teachers, in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

The possibility of a new Secretary of State for the rest of the UK as well as a newish one in Scotland raises questions as to the direction education will be going in. Teachers are used to, or perhaps that should be inured to, change. That does not mean we should accept it blindly, and I hope to persuade as many members as possible to take the plunge and get more involved over the coming year.

I was a very silent member for over 20 years, and since I have become more active in union activities I am more and more convinced of the difference we can make together. From a personal point of view I am now treated more seriously by my own school's SMT.

Having now taken part in a number of ATL's CPD events, I feel I can contribute positively to my own and others development. I am very proud of what I see us doing, and in the current climate,

we need a mutual support network more than ever.

I have been pleased with the input from our student members. I would like them to have at least some of the opportunities I had 25 years ago, and this is one of the things I am working for.

GTCS Registration

Members will be aware that if they wish to teach in the state sector registration with GTC Scotland is compulsory. Teachers in the independent sector however currently do not have to be registered with GTCS although increasingly schools are asking for registered teachers.

GTCS and the Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS) have been discussing a protocol regarding the registration of teachers in the independent sector. SCIS has reassured us that its 'strong recommendation' to member schools that teachers should have GTCS registration (and the awaited protocol) should not result in teachers losing their job if they are unable to achieve registration.

We are lobbying the GTCS to ensure that members are given every opportunity to successfully achieve registration.



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RECOMMENDED PROVIDERS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES TO MEMBERS OF ATL



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