# September 2007



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# Supporting teaching in higher education to improve student learning across the biosciences

#### **New Lecturers Resource Folder**

This briefing is to highlight the fact that we have revamped our resource folder for new and aspiring academic staff. A sample copy is enclosed for your information. The folder contains subject-specific material, intended to complement the information delivered in PG Cert and other professional development courses. It is designed to be flexible so staff can add to their folders and develop an individual resource of bioscience learning and teaching information. Included are details of Centre activities and the support we offer to individuals and their institutions, together with lists of selected publications, journals and websites relating to bioscience education.

We are happy to supply you with multiple copies, free of charge. **An order form is enclosed.** 

## **New Lecturers Buddy Scheme**

We are currently looking into introducing a buddy scheme for new bioscience lecturers from around the UK. This scheme should enable peer support for lecturers in different institutions so problems and ideas can be shared. We are looking at whether there is demand for such a scheme, therefore your feedback on this would be welcome. Please email Julie Peacock (j.peacock@leeds.ac.uk) with any comments.

### **Centre Information and How to Become a Member**

At the Centre we are continuing to support the needs of everyone involved in teaching and supporting learning in the Biosciences. Our website, which we have just re-designed, contains a lot of information and resources. There is a Staff and Educational Developers section which contains and information directly relevant to you.

You can join the Centre for Bioscience and become part of a network of bioscience learning and teaching professionals. You will receive the Centre for Bioscience Bulletin three times a year and regular electronic updates on Centre news, and information directly relevant to you as Staff and Educational Developers. To do this either, email or telephone us with your details, or go to the website and fill in the form. **www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/joinreg.aspx** 

### **Professional Development Events**

In 2007/2008 we will be continuing to run our Professional Development Events. Staff participating in these will be sent a certificate of attendance. In due course we will be mapping our activities against the Higher Education Academy's Professional Standards but it will be for institutions to decide whether our activities contribute towards their PG certificate and CPD requirements. Details of forthcoming events can be found at **www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/events/** 

### **Funding We Provide**

We have different funding schemes which provide money to develop and disseminate good practice in bioscience teaching and learning. These may be extremely useful to anyone wishing to get started in pedagogical research. Details of how to apply are available on our website **www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/funding/** 

#### **Bioscience Education e-Journal**

Our journal, Bioscience Education e-journal, is a source of peer-reviewed research and practice papers as well a place for bioscientists to publish education papers. PDF versions of individual papers can be freely downloaded.

### www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/

Do get in touch if there is any other information you need.

Best wishes,

The Centre for Bioscience Team