

# Staff & Educational Developers Briefing No. 6 September 2008

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

### **New Lecturers Resource Folder**

Please find enclosed a copy of our New Lecturers Resource Folder. Following last year's revamping of the Folder we distributed over 800 copies; this year we have updated the content and also included copies of some of our new Short Guides (more information below). The folder is 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.

### **Short Guides**

New from the Centre, Short Guides aim to provide introductions to learning and teaching topics, complementing the material available on our website. Current guides include: Transition to Higher Education; Preventing and Designing out Plagiarism; and Supporting Inclusive Learning and Teaching in the Biosciences. The guides are available to download from our website. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/shortguides.aspx

### Become a Member of the Centre

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, 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 complete the online form at www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/joinreg.aspx

### **Professional Development Events**

In 2008/09 we will continue to run our Professional Development Events. Staff participating in these will be sent a certificate of attendance, which includes an indication of how their participation in the event could contribute towards the Higher Education Academy's Professional Standards. Details of forthcoming events can be found at

www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/events/

## New Teaching and Learning Guide

In October 2008 we will be publishing the 3<sup>rd</sup> guide in our popular "Teaching Bioscience Enhancing Learning" series. *Student Research in the Biosciences* will consider student research (focusing largely on final year project work) and will contain evidence-based practical advice, supported by case studies and additional materials to enable bioscience lecturers to identify appropriate methods for their context and 'do it themselves'. The content will be relevant to all bioscience academics, from those in their first year of lecturing through to individuals with many years of teaching experience. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/guides

### **Bioscience Education**

Our journal, Bioscience Education, 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