

Jayne Osgood, Senior Research Fellow – London Metropolitan University

Meeting of Minds, TLRP mentoring scheme – Progress Report (2006-2007)

Below I outline the progress I have made during the first year of the mentoring scheme in relation to the targets defined at the outset. I also attach my current CV and the reviews of an unsuccessful ESRC bid application for your records.

Target 1: Prepare and submit an ESRC grant application

I submitted a bid to the ESRC in November 2006; *Childcare Workforce Reform and the Shifting Identities of Childminders: Implications for Policy and Practice*. Despite extremely positive reviews from a panel of assessors the bid was unsuccessful as an 'application which the Board wished to support in principle, but for which insufficient funds were available'. [I attach a copy of the referee's reviews of the bid which indicate the generally supportive response it received].

Target 2: Achieve membership on a learned journal board, university committee and/or similar.

I am now on the editorial board of two learned journals: *Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood* and *Gender and Education*. I am an active reviewer for eleven international peer refereed journals (I attach my CV which provides details). Furthermore, I was invited to join the BERA Publications Committee. At the University I am a member of the Public Profile Group*, within IPSE, which is responsible for raising awareness and disseminating research to the wider research community.

Target 3: Submit a book proposal and develop a structured journal paper submission strategy.

I am currently structuring two book proposals; one based on my doctoral research and a second which will be an edited collection for which I will act as editor. I continue to write and submit papers to esteemed journals – hence, I would consider the submission strategy devised with my mentor to be working effectively.

Target 4: Devise and pursue a strategy to facilitate networking and dissemination.

*See above. As a leading member of the Public Profile Group (PPG) I have actively sought to identify ways in which my work, and that of my peers and colleagues might be effectively disseminated – to this end, I highlight the *Meeting of Minds One Day Conference* that I conceived of, and which is currently being developed (with the TLRP) to take place in October 2008. Furthermore, The PPG is responsible for the co-ordination and facilitation of a seminar series, entitled EDUCATION AND THE SOCIAL WORLD: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES which is interdisciplinary and aims to broadly explore the role of education in the social world. The seminars combine well-known external speakers with the latest research from IPSE and are open to researchers, students, practitioners and policy makers. The theme for 2007/8 is 'The Educated Family?' I am presenting a paper at the third seminar in April 2008; Professor Rachel Thomson has been invited as the external speaker. It is anticipated that the seminar will be of significant interest to a range of scholars and there has

already been considerable demand for places which indicates its timeliness and appeal.

For the fourth consecutive year I am on the organizing committee for a high profile international conference, *Reconceptualising Early Childhood Education*, to be hosted in Victoria, Canada later this year. This has involved the vetting/review of paper submissions and other administrative duties involved in international conference proceedings.

In addition to the activities outlined above, I actively disseminate my findings at a range of conferences – I have abstracts accepted for five conferences (both in the UK and internationally) for the forthcoming academic year.