

TLRP Meeting of Minds Fellowship Report  
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I received an award under the fourth round of TLRP Meeting of Minds fellowships running from January 2008-June 2008 to work with Dr Pamela Burnard of Cambridge University Faculty of Education. I had submitted a research bid to the ESRC in response to a call for UK-Finland Bi-Lateral proposals in 2007, proposing to investigate the implications for music teacher education of informal learning as pedagogy, particularly related to Prof. Lucy Green's work on informal learning in the music classroom as in the Paul Hamlyn Foundation funded Musical Futures project. Although finally unsuccessful, the bid received much positive feedback from the assessors. This was a large-scale collaborative project with partners at the *Sibelius Akatemia* in Helsinki, Finland, which, although ultimately very useful in terms of my own academic development and international research networking, was on reflection probably too ambitious for a first bid as Principle Investigator to a funding council.

I submitted the TLRP fellowship application hoping to receive support to work with a mentor more experienced in leading research investigations and preparing bids to funding councils, to develop a UK only project on the subject of informal learning and music education. This research would be very useful for those working in teacher education in the UK and could form the basis for a revised UK / Finland bid to ESRC in the future. I also asked to receive mentoring from a researcher experienced in using video technology to capture data in classrooms. This would allow me to address certain points raised by the assessors of my initial ESRC bid in relation to issues of video data collection. I was successful in persuading Dr Pamela Burnard of Cambridge University, a researcher with a large amount of experience in funded research work and use of video to be my mentor during the fellowship.

Dr Burnard and I have met periodically throughout the fellowship period to prepare a bid to the ESRC First Grant's Call 2009. This bid **Informal Learning as Pedagogy: A Sociological Study of the Pedagogic Discourse of Informal Learning in Initial Teacher Education (£100,000)** was submitted in December 2008 and is awaiting decision. I piloted the video data capture methodology in September 2008 and learnt important lessons about the importance of camera positioning and the quality of audio recording capability required of the technology when working with music as data. Dr. Burnard also suggested a refinement and improvement to this methodology using dual cameras and split screen data display which allows more complete data capture and is well suited to recording the complexity of interactions in informal learning in the classroom. This has been incorporated in the submitted ESRC bid

In addition to the ESRC First Grants bid, Dr Burnard and I have joined with Chris Philpott Head of the Department of Initial Teacher Education, Greenwich University to work on a larger scale research proposal investigating the metapedagogy of informal learning as classroom pedagogic discourse in initial music teacher education. This work has formed the basis of a joint paper to be presented at the International Conference of Research in Music Education at the University of Exeter in April 2009.

I have also convened a conference symposium of international scholars in music education which Professor Lucy Green has agreed to chair at the International Reflective Conservatoire Conference at the Royal Guildhall School of Music, London in February 2009 to develop work in this research area further. It is hoped that a collaborative book may result from this symposium.