

# Informed Scotland

Learning and Skills Digest

Special Issue 7 | May 2015

INNOVATION  
SPECIAL



- ▶ dangerous ideas as agents of change
- ▶ creativity
- ▶ enterprise
- ▶ futures
- ▶ pushing the boundaries

Commissioned by





## Week One

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The Emporium of Dangerous Ideas is a future-orientated education festival that aims to re-establish the importance of dangerous ideas as agents of change in education – to shift the axis of what is possible! It is for everyone who is passionate about education, including college, university and school staff and students, as well as those engaged in education throughout the creative communities.

**The 2015 Emporium will take place all over Scotland from 9th to 19th June.**

*Make sure your voice is heard and shape the future of education. Join others from across all education sectors and public services: innovate and create what really matters.*



KAREN LAWSON, CURATOR OF DANGEROUS IDEAS

*Karen Lawson of College Development Network (CDN) was interviewed about the Emporium by TES FE Podcast and Radio EDUtalk. Radio EDUtalk is also inviting attendees at any of the Emporium events to submit short audio reports for publishing on their site.*

### **Emporium of Dangerous Ideas Launch**

**Tuesday 09 June • Govanhill Baths, Glasgow**

Join Dr Colin Jones, the Real David Cameron, Cherry Hopton and many more. Dive into the deep end!

More information from <http://bit.ly/1BHJPKY>

### **Leadership for 21st Century Education**

**Wednesday 10 June • Drygate, Glasgow**

Join David Price OBE, Paul Collard, Cathy Walsh OBE, Dr Ken Thomson, Angela McCusker and many more at the UK's first experiential craft brewery.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1BHJPKY>

### **Where Do We Go From Here?**

**Thursday 11 June • Forth Valley College, Stirling**

Join Forth Valley College for an evening of geocaching on the campus followed by a campfire discussion.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1aph8s8>

### **From Mind Full to Mindful Education!**

**Friday 12 June • CDN, Stirling**

This experiential workshop will be facilitated by Dr Lyndsay Lunan, a [City of Glasgow College](#) lecturer. There will be an opportunity to carry on the mindfulness conversations we started at the Emporium of Dangerous Ideas four years ago.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1yYjswk>

### **Failing in Education**

**Friday 12 June • Howden Park Centre, Livingston**

[West Lothian Creative Learning Network](#) and [Hidden Giants](#) invite you to spend a day exploring failure and how it manifests within our education system. Presenters include the Real David Cameron.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1HNFsAU>

### **School Takeover TeachMeet**

**Saturday 13 June • Stirling High School**

A dangerous ideas TeachMeet for school teachers, with the aim of getting them to share ideas and challenges.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1Ew6rNO>

## Ongoing

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### **Office Surfing**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work in a very different environment from your usual workplace? Would you like to try it out and become an [office surfer](#)? Would you like your organisation to host an office surfer?

More information from [dawn.brooks@cdn.ac.uk](mailto:dawn.brooks@cdn.ac.uk)

## Character, Culture and Values Conference

Monday 15 June • [University of Glasgow](#)

This [Character Scotland](#) event is an opportunity to learn how the exploration and nurturing of values, skills and attributes can empower children and young people and help to improve their outcomes in life, learning and work.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1vfYwiC>

## The Creative Gauntlet

Monday 15 June • [Forth Valley College, Stirling](#)

Join Forth Valley College and work to the creative brief, 'Why I am Passionate About Education', to generate your own thoughts, feelings and ideas.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1EaXrAx>

## Research as if Education Mattered. And Education as if Research Mattered

Tuesday 16 June • [CDN, Stirling](#)

This is the first [Scottish Educational Research Association \(SERA\) Poverty and Education Network](#) event. Join CDN and SERA who are working in partnership to link education and research.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1bUt05R>

## This is How We Do it

Tuesday 16 June • [Forth Valley College, Stirling](#)

Join student facilitators as they devise a session for lecturers, presenting a series of exercises based around the theme of learning. The students will be in charge!

More information from <http://bit.ly/1FES5fM>

## Attaining Creative Solutions

Tuesday 16 June • [The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh](#)

Join senior colleagues from across Scotland to explore the key educational issues of attainment and employability through the lens of creativity.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1Fisqeg>

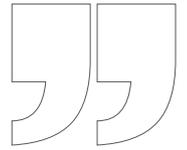
## Education (Clockwork) Orange

Wednesday 17 June • [Glasgow Subway System](#)

Join Forth Valley College for a facilitated tour of the environs surrounding selected stops of the Glasgow Subway system.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1DnL17N>

*How dangerous would it be if we implemented the changes in education that we conceived and not the compromised versions we always seem to put in place?*



THE REAL DAVID CAMERON

## Creative, Confident Learners – What Difference Have We Made So Far?

Wednesday 17 June • [Jupiter Artland, Wilkieston](#)

This is a [National Creative Learning Network](#) event, delivered in partnership with [Edinburgh Creative Learning Network](#). The day will be introduced and facilitated by Hywel Roberts, curriculum innovator and author of *Oops! Helping Children Learn Accidentally*.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1L7ahRg>

## The Business of Brewing

Thursday 18 June • [Drygate, Glasgow](#)

Join Jamie Cook, Sarah Drummond, Snook and Paul Gorman for the final stage of the brewing challenge.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1BTB7Zt>

## Creative Change Exhibition: Finale

Friday 19 June • [CDN, Stirling](#)

This exhibition will be curated by the Real David Cameron and focus on how creative approaches, risk taking and dangerous ideas have shaped learning and learning environments.

More information from <http://bit.ly/1a9wReF>

## CDN AND EMPORIUM LINKS

- [College Development Network](#)
- [CDN Emporium page](#)
- [Emporium Blog](#)
- [Emporium Facebook](#)
- [Emporium LinkedIn Group](#)
- [Emporium Padlet](#)
- [Agents of Change](#)

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#dangeroused



## Informed Scotland

Produced in Edinburgh for professionals who need to keep abreast of the world of learning and skills.

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CDN commissioned this *Informed Scotland Innovation Special* to showcase the Emporium and place it at the heart of the broader innovation agenda across the learning and skills landscape. The Special pulls together relevant highlights from recent months, making connections between education, business, government and the wider community. It aims to encourage everyone to look beyond the usual places for their inspiration – and dangerous ideas!

# Further & Higher Education

## RESEARCH, PLANNING & LEADERSHIP

■ UK research councils, **Scottish Funding Council (SFC)** and other higher education funding bodies launched a new Research Excellence Framework impact case study database. The searchable resource includes almost 800 case studies submitted by researchers at Scotland's 19 universities. (29)

*A rich resource – a search for 'innovation' reveals 1,479 case studies, including 154 from Scotland.*

■ **SFC** published:

- Outcome Agreements 2015–16 for colleges & universities, including creating an Innovation Challenge fund.
- A draft Strategic Plan 2015–18 focusing on outcomes including in innovation. (30)

*There are eight SFC funded Innovation Centres.*

■ **CDN** launched a new Developing Leaders Programme particularly for recently appointed managers or those looking for development tools or frameworks. (29)

*An Emerging Leaders Programme was launched in 2012–13.*

■ Researchers from **University of Glasgow CREATE Centre** and **University of Bournemouth** launched online learning materials to help students and the public understand copyright law. (28)

## ENTERPRISE & EMPLOYABILITY

■ **Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Lews Castle College UHI, Skills Development Scotland (SDS), SQA**, Sector Skills Councils and employers, launched progression pathways in engineering and health & social care sectors for S5/S6 pupils. Courses combine work-based skills with school/college study. (28)

■ **Quality Assurance Agency** published Employability and Graduate Attributes, a report of eight Scottish institutions. Examples include innovative methods of employer engagement, careers services and work-based learning. (30)

■ **Robert Gordon University (RGU)** MSc Digital Marketing students created The Digital Scot to develop and showcase skills learnt during their studies. It provides opportunities to gain work experience and attract employers. (30)

*In similar schemes, **Edinburgh Napier University** Publishing students produce Buzz magazine; **Glasgow Clyde College Journalism** students launched Clyde Insider; and **University of Glasgow** vet students run Trusty Paws Clinic.*

■ **Interface** extended the Innovation Voucher Scheme to include applications from **James Hutton Institute, Moredun Research Institute**, and colleges working to provide services to SMEs in the construction sector. (28)

## IMAGINATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

■ **University of Edinburgh** signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **National Galleries of Scotland** to collaborate on research projects, exhibitions and resources for the study of Scottish art. (28)

■ **STV** is working with **University of the West of Scotland (UWS)** to deliver local TV in Ayr, with **North East Scotland College** and **RGU** in Aberdeen, and **Dundee & Angus College** and **Abertay University** in Dundee. Students will access professional learning & work opportunities. (29)

*STV already works with **Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU)** and **Edinburgh Napier University**.*

■ **Queen Margaret University (QMU)** signed a Strategic Alliance agreement with **Alzheimer Scotland**. Aims include creating a 'dementia aware' university and a strategic approach to CPD for health professionals. (29)

■ **University of Stirling** was awarded **European Research Council** funding to examine how humans differ from primates in learning skills and knowledge from others. The study will involve adults and young children plus **Edinburgh Zoo** chimpanzees and monkeys. (30)

■ **Edinburgh College** is working with **Melville Housing Association** to offer free traditional construction skills training for apprentices, contractors, schools and home owners. The project supports the **Dalkeith Corn Exchange** regeneration. (30)

■ Quantum technology research centre **QantIC** was launched, involving six UK Universities and over 30 industry partners. £3m is being provided by **SFC** to create a new 'innovation space' at the **University of Glasgow**. (28)

# Government & Wider Society

## INNOVATIVE NATION, FUTURE LEARNING

■ Scottish Government launched a Scotland CAN DO website, setting out the intention to become 'a world-leading entrepreneurial and innovative nation'. (28)

*'Innovation' is a priority in Scotland's Economic Strategy.* (29)

■ **Future City Glasgow** launched the Data Launchpad, a city data hub developed with **Microsoft UK**. Residents and businesses will be able to access information and contribute local knowledge via online tools and apps. (28)

■ A **Salvesen Mindroom Centre** is to be established at **University of Edinburgh** to 'understand and resolve learning difficulties' in children and young people. The 'virtual' centre, a collaboration with **Mindroom** and the **NHS**, will be the first of its kind in the UK. (28)

# Business

## A CHANGING WORKFORCE

### ■ UK Commission for Employment & Skills (UKCES)

published labour market projections for Scotland from 2012–22 as part of its Working Futures programme. (28)  
*Careers of the Future was published in December 2014.*

■ UK Government's Business Champion for Older Workers published A new vision for older workers for those over 50. Recommendations include apprenticeships, addressing skills gaps and better training to manage older workers. (29)

*Barclays is to pilot an apprenticeship scheme for the over 50s later this year.* (28)

■ **Health & Social Care Alliance Scotland** launched My Skills, My Strengths, My Work, to support people with long term conditions access jobs and remain in work. (29)

### ■ Nesta published:

- Creativity vs Robots, suggesting creative jobs will be much more resistant to automation than most other roles.
- The creative economy and the future of employment, calling for an end to 'bias against multi-disciplinary education' and for STEM to become STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths). (30)

*Nesta's Innovation Growth Lab tests different approaches for entrepreneurship and growth.*

■ The first two regional Invest in Young People Groups were set up in North-East Scotland and Glasgow to improve links between education and employers and increase opportunities for young people. This is part of the Scottish Government's Developing the Young Workforce Strategy. (28)

■ **The Scotland Office** published Womenomics: Scotland – The role and contribution of women in the Scottish economy by Prof Lesley Sawers. Recommendations include changing 'mainstream attitudes and behaviour', developing a UK-wide Gender Index and increasing 'inspiring role models'. (29)

■ **UKCES** launched Leadership and entrepreneurship in small firms, the latest competition in its UK Futures Programme tackling 'workforce development problems'. (29)  
*Their latest competition launched in May is on gender and equality in the workplace.*

## BUSINESS CREATION & GROWTH

■ New business plans for **Scottish Enterprise** and **Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE)** include 'an openness to innovation' and 'increasing support for innovation' respectively. (29) (30)  
*HIE published a Creative Industries Strategy in 2014.*

■ **Entrepreneurial Scotland** launched a Future Leaders network with members identified as Entrepreneurs, Intrapreneurs, Creators, Do-ers, or Sellers. (30)

## CREATIVE SKILLS, CREATIVE APPROACHES

■ **Creative Scotland**, in partnership with **SDS**, is to manage a new £1m Screen Sector Skills Fund in 2015–16 for those in the sector and young people considering a screen-related career.

*SDS is due to publish a creative industries Skills Investment Plan (SIP). There are currently nine SIPs.* (28)

■ **W Dunbartonshire Council** Working 4U service is offering free driving lessons for 17 to 24 year-old residents who are unable to pay, to help improve their chances of finding work. (29)

■ **University of Aberdeen** and **RGU** are launching two new digital innovation hubs as part of the City Council's Accelerate Aberdeen programme. Business skills and support will also be offered via **Scottish Institute of Enterprise**. (30)

*Similar hubs include **Elevator** Aberdeen; **Creative Exchange**, a joint City of Edinburgh–Edinburgh College initiative; and **The Hub** and **Creative Clyde** in Glasgow.*

# Community & Adult Learning

## CREATIVE LEARNING SPACES & SKILLS

■ **Nesta** published an 'open dataset' of 97 makerspaces in the UK, up from nine in 2010. 35% of visitors are there to learn. 63% run school programmes, 26% affiliated programmes e.g. **CoderDojo** and **Raspberry Pi Jams**. (30)  
*11 are listed in Scotland including **MAKLab**, **57North**, **Edinburgh Hacklab** and **T-Exchange**.*

■ **Transition Extreme** and **RGU** launched Extreme Art School, for groups of 16–21 year-olds not in education, training or employment. (30)  
*Part of the Alternative Academies widening access programme that includes Extreme Academy.*

■ **Creative Scotland** awarded £100k to support 10 full-time 12-month places for 20–30 year-olds in its Traineeships Programme for the arts, screen and creative industries. (29)

■ **Scotland's Futures Forum** is working with specialists to develop a wellbeing MOOC. (29)

*Massive Open Online Courses are available on a huge range of topics, e.g. via **FutureLearn**, **Proversity** & **Coursera**.*

# Schools

## ADVANCING THE CURRICULUM

- **Education Scotland** published *Learning for Sustainability*, the latest in the *Opening Up Great Learning* series of discussion papers. (28)
- **SQA** is developing new qualifications in cyber security at SCQF Levels 4, 5 and 6, believed to be the first of their kind for school pupils in Europe. (28)  
*A new **International Cyber Academy** was launched in May at Edinburgh Napier University.*
- **SQA** announced from August 2015 teachers can develop their own National 4 Added Value Unit assessments. (28)
- **Education Scotland** published *Building Society: Young people's experiences and outcomes in the technologies*. It states technologies should promote creativity and problem-solving, real-time, real-world and digital technologies should be placed at the heart of learning. (29)  
*Education Scotland commissioned an Informed Scotland Technologies Special.*
- Scottish Government announced a new Scottish Attainment Challenge to improve literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing in primary schools. It will draw on the experience of the London Challenge. (28)

## ENTERPRISING, ENGAGING SCHOOLS

- A new Skills Centre of Excellence was opened at **Irvine Royal Academy** with **Ayrshire College, SFC, Edge Foundation** and **SDS** funding. The aim is to prepare young people for work through more vocational options from S4-6 and better links with local business. (28)
- **TESS** reported findings of research into the Enterprising Schools Project pilot, run by **Young Enterprise Scotland**. Success depends on gaining whole-school support. (30)
- **City of Edinburgh Council** and **Edinburgh International Festival** launched a three year arts residency in Castlebrae Community High School. (29)
- **Scottish Parent Teacher Council**, supported by **SDS**, is to pilot a Partnership Schools model developed in the USA. It involves 'research-based and goal-oriented programmes of school, family and community partnerships'. (29)
- **W Dunbartonshire Council** has given every P7 pupil £10 to invest in a **Credit Union** account through The Starter for Ten initiative to develop money management skills. (28)
- **Inverclyde Council** secondary schools are piloting SafeSpotter developed by **NHS** and **University of Glasgow** to train older students as 'first points of contact' for those with mental health difficulties. (29)

## TEACHER DEVELOPMENT & ENQUIRY

- A new master's qualification for headship developed by **Scottish College for Educational Leadership (SCEL)** will be introduced in August 2015 and become compulsory for all new headteachers from 2018-19. (28)
- **General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS)** is to develop 'MyProfessionalLearning', a National E-Portfolio for teachers. It will be piloted from August 2016. (29)  
*GTCS is piloting EducationHUB for teachers to share and review unpublished teacher research and enquiry.*  
***Pedagoo** and **SCEL** are organising the first #EnquiryMeet.*
- **Scottish Educational Research Association** is launching a Leadership in Scottish Education Network. (30)

## OTHER USEFUL ORGANISATIONS & LINKS

- Carnegie UK Trust
- CENSIS
- Children's University Scotland
- CodeSpace Edinburgh
- Construction Scotland Innovation Centre
- Create, Inverness College UHI
- Creative Scotland: Time to Shine
- Data Lab
- Digital Health & Care Institute
- EC: Innovation in Higher Education
- GGiS/SFF 2025 Learning
- GSA Institute of Design Innovation
- Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre
- Innovate UK
- Innovation Scotland Forum
- Jisc Scotland Showcase
- NUS Scotland: Imagine Tomorrow
- Oil & Gas Innovation Centre
- Opening Educational Practices in Scotland
- Open Scotland
- Prince's Trust Scotland
- Product Forge
- Ragged University
- Robert Owen Centre for Educational Change
- Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre
- Scottish Centre for Food Development & Innovation
- Starcatchers: Arts from the Start
- Stratified Medicine Scotland
- Trade School Glasgow
- Young Scot
- 157 Group: Future Colleges