ESAI Newsletter

June 2007

Newsletter of the Educational Studies Association of Ireland

Dear Colleagues

We are drawing to the end of another academic year with all the work that this entails. The Annual Conference was a success and I would like to thank all those who contributed to it being both a worthwhile and an enjoyable event. In particular I wish o acknowledge the work of the Conference Organising Committee, Maria Feeney, Ted Forde, Paula Kinnarney and Majella McSharry. It was the first time that we held the Annual Conference in a hotel and the general consensus emerging out of the evaluation sheets we collected from participants as well as comments made by those in attendance was positive.

I am particularly keen to thank the outgoing members of the ESAI Executive, Zita Lysaght, Josephine Boland and Ivor Hickey for their generous service to the Association and also for their friendship to all their colleagues on the Executive. I am delighted to welcome four new members to the Executive: Delma Byrne, Mella Cusack, Bernadette Kiely and Claire McAvinia. I have no doubt that they will each make an excellent contribution to the work of the Association.

There was a lively discussion at the AGM regarding the development of a membership strategy for the Association. A membership committee was formed comprising of Paul Conway, Aidan Seery, Tom Daly and Elizabeth Gorman. This committee will welcome additional members in due course and is also open to hearing from members about their ideas regarding the development of the membership base.

I wish you all a pleasant summer

Anne Lodge ESAI President



General Editor: Irish Educational Studies

The Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) invites applications for the position of General Editor of its Journal, *Irish Educational Studies*.

In recent years, the Association entered into an agreement with the international publisher, Routledge, to publish the journal and three issues per year are published in each volume.

The ideal candidate will have a high standing in the Educational Research Community in Ireland and Internationally. S/he will also be a scholar of vision who will be responsible for moving the editorial policy of the journal forward, as well as for undertaking the traditional duties of General Editor in collaboration with three coeditors, members of the editorial board and Associate Editors. The General Editor will oversee the peer- review process, as well as the preparation of each issue of the Journal for publication.

The selection process will be completed by September 2007, and this will be followed by a period of transition. The appointment will be for a period of five years and will commence formally after the candidate is ratified by the Association's AGM in the Spring of 2008. New support procedures for the administration of the Journal are currently being implemented.

Applications should consist of a CV, covering letter, and a statement of editorial intent, and be sent to: Joe O' Hara, General Secretary, ESAI, School of Education, DCU, Dublin

The deadline for applications is June 29th 2007

Journal Administrator: Irish Educational Studies

The ESAI wishes to appoint an Administrator for its journal, *Irish Educational Studies*. The responsibilities include all aspects of managing the submission of papers, the review process, communicating with Editors, with authors, and preparing manuscripts for the publisher. The position is being offered to a Doctoral student, preferably, but not necessarily, in the field of education. Commitment to the role is likely to be for a period of 3-5 years. The ideal candidate will possess the following skills: be highly motivated, have excellent computer skills, be able to work to deadlines, consult with Editors when appropriate, and take initiative also. Previous experience of academic publishing would be of considerable advantage. Appropriate training and initiation will be provided for the successful candidate. The position represents a significant career opportunity for the right candidate. An appropriate remuneration package is also available. Expressions of interest with a CV should be sent to Dr. Joe O'Hara, School of Education, DCU, Dublin 9 by **Friday 29th June 2007.**

Membership News

The entrance gate to the rewards of ESAI membership for 2007 closed officially on May 1st as the last date to secure receipt of Volume 26 of Irish Educational Studies (IES). In an effort to slip a few more in before the lock-up, it was decided to extend the deadline until Friday May 4th as there were a number of participants at the Annual Conference who had been invoiced for membership but had not yet responded. There has been a last minute flurry of activity and I am happy to report that membership for 2007 is looking reasonably healthy and also pleased to report that anyone who had taken up or renewed their membership by May 4th is guaranteed their copy of IES.

At the time of writing, it is clear that ESAI is an association of individuals. This is not a psychological or sociological claim [nor an allusion to *The Life of Brian*] but a reflection of the fact that the Association has 194 registered individual members [53 Associate and 141 Ordinary members]. Institutional membership stands at 6 and we have one Corporate member registered. This breakdown is useful if only to show the direction in which a marketing and promotion campaign might take. For instance, the Executive continues to discuss ways in which we can encourage a growth in numbers among doctoral students and corporate and institutional bodies.

A new email contact for all matters relating to membership is now active. The address is esaimembership@gmail.com. This should prove very useful for ensuring that all queries regarding membership can be dealt with in a quick and easy fashion. The postbox will be checked regularly!

Aidan Seery Membership Secretary

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