



staff development
forum

CONNECTING

"WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO WORK OUTSIDE OUR AREA OF SPECIALISM, SO I HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTING TO A PROJECT ON SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY, INITIALLY FROM A TRAINING PERSPECTIVE."

DAN NEWBERRY

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DEVELOPING

"THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE IN THE SDF NETWORK WHO IS FACING THE SAME CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES AS YOU OR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN THERE AND DONE THAT."

ZOE IRVINE

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INTRODUCING THE STAFF DEVELOPMENT FORUM



WHAT IS THE SDF?

The Staff Development Forum (SDF) is a not-for-profit charitable organisation, representing and working with staff and organisational developers in Higher Education (HE) to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and organisational performance of the sector and its workplace.

The SDF encourages the sharing of good practice, closer working across institutions, and the development of stronger links with other professional bodies working in related areas in higher education. If you work in the development community, in whatever capacity, we're glad to work with you to support your CPD, so please let us know your views and ideas. We already have an excellent working relationship with the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education (LFHE), which financially supports the SDF through an annual grant.

We support member development in areas that are often outside the remit of the Leadership Foundation (e.g. early career development) especially for those staff who are not employed within managerial positions. However, those members of the SDF who are in managerial positions recognise the benefit of being able to draw upon the support and expertise of both professional bodies to support their own development, and that of their aspiring managers and staff. The SDF seeks to offer a service to members that fully supports the work of the LFHE (AdvanceHE) this is ultimately to the benefit of their employer, through career, personal and professional development opportunities.

Our mission is to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and organisational performance of the sector and to enhance personal performance by supporting the career development of those within the staff and organisational development community.

Our aims are:

- to provide a forum for professional debate and discussion.
- to be a vehicle for the circulation and cross fertilisation of new ideas in the field.
- to provide a focus for continuing professional development (CPD) and professional accreditation opportunities.
- to act as a 'hub' to link the work of our 12 regional networks.
- to reflect a variety of perspectives on a range of current issues.

The SDF is also keen to work with other professional bodies that support developers in HEIs – please get involved and help us to influence the future of higher education. We look forward to working with you!

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

The SDF is committed to developing excellent practice in the Higher Education community. It provides support to the staff development community by a number of means, including:

- regional and national CPD events.
- pathways to gain professional accreditation for all levels of developers.
- an Annual Conference for new and experienced staff, in partnership with the Leadership Foundation.
- support to regional consortia through which initial and continuing professional development, workshops and events are delivered.
- regional 'Collaborative Development Grants'.
- mentoring, coaching and action learning schemes.
- newsletters and social media outlets.
- publications on strategic issues affecting the profession.
- sharing of resources and personal networking.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The SDF provides support for anyone who has a remit for staff, organisational or educational development as part of their role. You can get involved in any of the following ways:

- Subscribe to the SDF jiscmail to use forums for discussion with peers across the UK, receive updates and information.
- Contact your regional group and take part in their activities.
- Attend any of SDF's national or regional events.
- Get your professional expertise recognised via one of the SDFs accredited programmes.
- Volunteer to offer a session, seminar or event for the national Conference or regional meetings.

CONTACT US

For more information, to find local contacts, to view the calendar of events, to read about our accreditation options, or to contact us to volunteer to get involved, visit www.sdf.ac.uk

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Supported by:

 **AdvanceHE**

SUPPORTING

"THIS IS MY FIRST TIME WORKING IN THE HE SECTOR, AND FOR ME THE BEST THING IS THE COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT AND KNOWLEDGE THAT IT OFFERS."

CLARE ENNIS

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