

Keynote Speaker: *biographical details***Dr Phil Gravestock**

Phil Gravestock is Head of Learning Enhancement & Technology Support at the University of Gloucestershire and was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship in 2005 from the Higher Education Academy.

Phil has an interest in inclusion and flexible learning, which arose primarily from his experiences of working with disabled students on geological fieldwork. He was director of the HEFCE-funded 'DisabilityCPD' project, which

resulted in a national online learning course for academic staff in higher education and he was also involved with the Geography Discipline Network's 'Learning Support for Disabled Students Undertaking Fieldwork and Related Activities' project and the 'Inclusive Curriculum Project'. He co-wrote 'Inclusion and Diversity: meeting the needs of all students' with Sue Grace, which is part of the Routledge *Key Guides for Effective Teaching in Higher Education* series.

Phil also has an interest in technology-enhanced learning, including the use of digital storytelling in higher education, and was director of the 'Enhancing Students' Reflection through the use of Digital Storytelling' Pathfinder project.

Keynote session**Inclusive Curriculum Development: considering the needs of all students**

As a result of increasing student numbers in higher education, the student population as a whole has become more diverse in terms of educational, dispositional, circumstantial and cultural characteristics. In response to this change, how can we ensure that our academic practices are inclusive to students? Are we able to say that our curricula are designed in a truly inclusive way?

To date most of the initiatives looking at diversity have focused on particular groups of students (e.g. disabled students, international students), and have identified strategies that assist these students to participate to their full potential. Given the current level of student diversity in higher education it is more appropriate to consider how these strategies can also have a positive impact on the wider student body. This session will use principles from Universal Design to consider the essential elements of an inclusive curriculum.