

PRESS RELEASE

ASSOCIATION
FOR LEARNING
TECHNOLOGY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Next generation challenges education to break the mould

Registration has opened for the 13th International Conference of the Association for Learning Technology, the UK's largest academic conference on learning technology, to be held in Edinburgh between 5 and 7 September 2006. The conference theme is "The next generation", with ten parallel streams focusing on next generation learners, learning, providers and technology.

Three keynote speakers, all known for promoting greater use of learning technology to benefit learners, will challenge delegates to respond to the changing shape of education.

Dr Diana Oblinger, Vice President for EDUCAUSE's teaching and learning initiatives and Director of the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative, was the Executive Director of Higher Education for Microsoft Corporation and led the Institute for Academic Technology for IBM. <http://www.educause.com>

Prof Tim O'Shea is the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh. His personal research is in the area of computer-aided learning, and in particular he pioneered the development of Intelligent Tutoring Systems. <http://www.ed.ac.uk>

Prof Stephen Heppell spent 20 years building Ultralab, which established an exceptional reputation as a world leading learning technology research centre. The Ultralab projects list includes: Notschool.Net, a virtual school for excluded youngsters; and Talking Heads, an online community of practice for all the UK's headteachers. <http://www.heppell.net/>

Four invited speakers – **Dr Terry Anderson**, **Dr Phil Candy**, **Prof Gilly Salmon** and **Dr Chris Yapp** – will explore the themes of the conference: next generation learners, next generation learning, next generation providers and next generation technology. Details of all keynote and theme speakers are at <http://www.alt.ac.uk/altc2006/keynotes.html>.

A record number of submissions were received for the programme (348), including research papers, workshops, posters and symposia. The Programme Committee members have selected a stimulating range of presentations to cater for all sections of the learning technology community. The programme will go online in July, along with details of pre- and post-conference workshops, at <http://www.alt.ac.uk/altc2006/programme.html>. Earlybird registration and exhibition bookings close 30 June.

Major anchor sponsors of ALT-C 2006 are: Adobe; Eduserv; Heriot-Watt University; The Higher Education Academy; The Joint Information Systems Committee; Positive Internet Company Ltd; Royal Bank of Scotland; The Scottish Executive; Scottish Funding Council; Scottish Qualifications Authority; SunGuardSCT; The Times Higher Educational Supplement; and Toshiba Information Systems (UK) Ltd

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