PRESS RELEASE

Date: 15 June 2006   **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

New research committee to explore evidence of benefits of learning technology

The launch meeting of the new Research Committee of the Association for Learning Technology (ALT) takes place at the Open University today. Chaired by Prof Robin Mason (Open University), the committee brings together a wealth of experience in learning technology research in all areas of education from across the UK. The committee will develop the ALT Learning Technology Research Strategy (http://www.alt.ac.uk/ALT_2005_Research_Strategy_20050420.html) and advise the Association on research-related collaborations.

Prof Robin Mason said, "I am delighted to be chairing such a prestigious group and I look forward to making contributions to the ALT research programme."

The Research Committee members are:

Name	Affiliation
Robin Mason – *Chair*	Professor of Educational Technology at the Open University's Institute of Educational Technology
John Cook – *Vice Chair*	President of ALT, and Manager of the Reusable Learning Objects Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
Allison Littlejohn	Director of the Caledonian Academy, Glasgow Caledonian University
Bob Banks	Analyst/developer/consultant with Tribal Technology Ltd
Brian Whalley	Professor of Geomorphology at Queen's University Belfast
David Nicol	Head of Research and Development in e-Learning at Strathclyde University
Frances Bell	Senior Lecturer in the Information Systems Institute at the University of Salford University
Frank Rennie	Head of Research and Postgraduate Development at the University of the Highlands and Islands
Gilly Salmon	Professor of e-Learning and Learning Technologies at the University of Leicester
Josie Taylor	Professor of Learning Technology at the Open University, and Director of the IET User Lab
Mike Keppell	Head, Centre for Learning, Teaching and Technology at the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and Australasian Society for Computers in Learning in Tertiary Education (ASCILITE)
Mike Prosser	Director of Research and Evaluation, Higher Education Academy
Mike Sharples	Professor of Learning Sciences, and Director of the Nottingham University's Learning Sciences Research Institute
Phil Barker	Professor of Applied Computing at the University of Teesside
Vanessa Pittard	Director of Evidence and Evaluation, British Educational and Communications Technology Agency (Becta)
Bill Olivier	Development Director (Systems and Technology), Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)

About ALT

ALT is a UK-wide professional and scholarly association which has 500 individual members and is supported by more than 170 universities, colleges, other learning providers, and more than 50 corporate members including the DfES, the Higher Education Academy, HEFCE, the JISC, Microsoft UK, the Scottish Funding Councils for Further and Higher Education, UKERNA and the Welsh Assembly Government. The Association promotes good practice in the use of learning technology in education and industry; represents members in areas of policy; and facilitates collaboration between practitioners, researchers, and policy makers.

Contact details

Media enquiries to: Rhonda Riachi, Director: rriachi@brookes.ac.uk
Association for Learning Technology, Gipsy Lane, Headington, Oxford, OX3 0BP
Tel: +44 (0)1865 484 125   Fax: +44 (0)1865 484 165   Email: alt@brookes.ac.uk
URL: http://www.alt.ac.uk/
ALT is a Registered Charity in the UK, number: 1063519