



NEWS FROM FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE

09/02/10

For immediate use

COLLEGE GOES GLOBAL AT WORLD CONFERENCE

A representative from Forth Valley College travelled to Istanbul last week (Thursday February 4th) to co-present a paper to the prestigious World Conference on Educational Science.

Kathleen Marjoribanks from Falkirk, the College's Depute Head of Access and Progression, joined Gary Roberts and Ann Swinney - education professionals from Dundee University - to travel to Turkey. There they delivered both a live and a virtual presentation on developing a qualification for adult literacies tutors in Scotland.

The latest virtual technology allowed 22 adult literacy student tutors at the college's Stirling Campus, to view Kathleen's presentation - 'Developing the Agora in the 21st Century' on how adult literacy practitioners in Scotland can utilise Virtual Learning Environments (VLE). This was relayed from the conference venue at Bahcesehir University on the banks of the Bosphorus, to them in class via the Skype web communications system last Thursday.

Forth Valley College has been participating as a partner with higher education partners Dundee, Strathclyde, and Aberdeen Universities to create the Teaching Qualification Adult Literacies (TQAL) - the first ever professional qualification for Scottish tutors, teachers and lecturers who support adults to develop their skills in literacy and numeracy.

Kathleen said: "Taking part in the conference gives us an opportunity to share both the good news story of our innovative curriculum design which uses interactive technologies to develop a 21st century community of practice for professional development and some of the challenges we have faced in embracing a blended approach to building a sustainable learning community for adult literacies in Scotland".

PIC 1: TURKISH DELIGHT: President of the WCES 2010 Associate professor Dr Adem Karahoca of Bahcesehir University (far left) was delighted to pose for a picture with the Scottish delegation (from left to right) Ann Swinney and Gary Roberts from Dundee University and Kathleen Marjoribanks from FVC.

PIC 2: CONFERENCE CALL: Kathleen talked through a dry run of her presentation on Skype in class before she left for Turkey last week.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE – EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

Forth Valley College is made up of over 20,000 students and 600 staff and offers more than 750 courses at its campuses in Alloa, Falkirk and Stirling. Approximately 93% of students successfully progress on to employment or University upon completion of their course at Forth Valley College.

Contact: Stuart Hall or Laura McCarvill 01324 403125 for further information.

