



Principal gives best practice presentation at the AoC Conference

A key presentation on promoting a vibrant learning culture was given by Havering Sixth Form College Principal Paul Wakeling at the Association of Colleges (AoC) Conference, held in Birmingham recently.

Paul, along with Graham Francis (Director of IT Services) and Uly Lyons (Subject Sector Leader for Arts, Media and Publishing), was asked to showcase the College's innovative and best practice with a talk and film titled 'Towards a 21st Century Learner' as part of the London Colleges – Transforming Delivery to Meet New Realities seminar.

The presentation on enhancing the learner experience for students included the College vision for the future of learning and what was being done to achieve this, such as a wireless campus – allowing access to staff and learners; a net book loaning scheme for students; more mobile devices being brought in; informal learning spaces created throughout the College, such as in the refectory, upper atrium, library and internet café; flexible learning spaces – the first one in the Arts, Media and Publishing area; and open spaces allowing 'creative work'.

The main message was that learners want to be in control of their learning and the College is facilitating this by providing appropriate space and resources and looking at flexible delivery to enhance a student's experience.

HSFC was one of four colleges from the London region asked to give a presentation. The other colleges were City of Westminster, Lewisham and Westminster Kingsway.

The AoC conference is a major annual event for principals and senior managers and this year the strong message was that despite financial pressures, the profile of Learning and Skills is high with the sector seen as having a key role in economic recovery.

Click on the link to watch the Havering Sixth Form College presentation film: http://www.aoctv.co.uk/colleges/c/aoc_tv_2009/v/promoting_a_vibrant_learning_culture/

Click on the link to view a report of the AoC conference: <http://www.rsc-london.ac.uk/1372/>

