

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES

REPORT FROM THE ADULT EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE, June 1991

(Nessan J Danaher, Convenor)

- (1) The last few months have been busy. The 8th annual national conference of the Irish Studies Workshop (at Soar Valley College) was as usual the vehicle for developing some aspects of AdEd/FE work. There were 170 enrolments for the Conference, but due to very severe weather only around 60 were able to travel on the day. Happily, both main speakers and 5 of the workshop leaders turned up (for which we were especially grateful as 4 of these had very long journeys to make).

Jonathan Bardon, Head of the Academic and Continuing Education Department of Belfast College of Business Studies talked most ably and enthusiastically on 'Cultural Traditions and Teaching History - the N Ireland Experience' whilst Margaret Ward explored the inner processes involved in 'Putting Gender into Irish History'. As BAIS had, as is customary, sponsored the event, we were able to post a full conference package to all those who had registered but were unable to attend.

- (2) This Sub-Committee has met only once before, on 7.10.89. The main agenda items were:-

- compiling a register of AdEd/FE courses via a survey
- identifying resources (especially financial)
- liaising on accreditation, especially the Open College Network
- identifying sources of support (eg libraries) for materials
- links with the wider community.

All of these have been addressed, with varying degrees of success. For further information on progress to date, please refer to the 2 sheets attached, viz:

- (i) BAIS Exec / Report from Ad Ed Convenor of 23.2.91 for issue to next meeting of Sub-Committee.

- (ii) The sheet headed BAIS/The Management of Change in Adult, Further and Community Education: Irish Dimensions within Current Developments, meeting scheduled for 24.6.91.

N.B. - this will, hopefully, be the second Ad Ed Sub-Committee meeting, as explained elsewhere. The agenda will be the items listed on this notice. There are also some changes to personnel involved. Currently, the Sub-Committee now consists of:

Nessan Danaher - Soar Valley CC, Leicester, Convenor

Sean Hutton - BAIS Executive Director

Bob Purdie - BAIS, Oxford

Greg Quiery - Merseyside O C Network

Sabina Sharkey - Irish Studies Centre, N London Polytechnic

Pat Duffy - Wolverhampton Irish Cultural Association

Jonathan Moore - BAIS, Ed 'Irish Studies in Britain'

Andy Morgan - Leeds Polytechnic

Martin Flynn - Birmingham Libraries; Irish Studies organiser

John Woodhurst - Newark Tech; Irish Studies organiser

- (3) Around the Country Irish Studies in AE/FE would appear to be maintaining its position, and in many cases expanding, eg in Leicester, Newark, Newcastle on Tyne, Manchester, Bradford, Merseyside, Luton and in various locations in London; Birmingham and Nottingham are about to come 'on stream'; to date, the only course known to have folded is the RSA at Kilburn Polytechnic.

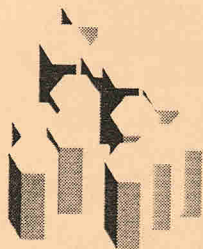
BAIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

(London - Saturday 23 February 1991)

Report from Convenor of Adult Education Sub-Committee

1. Sub-Committee met for first (and only time to date) in October 1989. The meeting was useful, with a full agenda that highlighted paths for development.
2. Next meeting of Sub-Committee: Convenor proposed that the Sub-Committee meet within the framework of an independent INSET initiative, which would be circulated only to Adult Education Sub Committee Members; as the agenda would perforce directly reflect BAIS priorities, the Sub-Committee could thus generate local support re time and fees for colleagues attending, who would apply for attendance as per normal inset pattern. Fee income generated would support sub-committees work; members institutions would grant time, fee and travel expenses.
(Initiative approved by Executive on 23.2.91)
3. Convenor indicated important implications of 2 national developments - National Curriculum and LMS (Local Management of Schools) - both of which may have effect on Adult Education, Further Education and community provisions.
4. Current study courses at this level:-
 - Convenor indicated that A and A/S levels were apparently well supported and resourced; Tony Downey indicated that these were in fact unsafe assumptions to make.
 - RSA - Jonathan Moore indicated that this option was no longer in existence.
 - OCN (Open College Networks) -- Convenor pointed to continuing success of OCN/Irish Studies in both Manchester (Joe Flynn) and Merseyside (Greg Quierly). He reported that Irish Studies Workshop (Soar Valley College) and New FE/Tech. College (John Woodhurst) were poised to launch a new collaborative OCN initiative vis the new Leicestershire OCN. (Nessan Danaher has prepared 6 new modules, all of which are already fully resources re - texts).
5. The Adult Education SURVEY had been issued after first Sub-Committee. There had been an encouraging response from around the country: the collator, Martin Flynn from Birmingham Library, had received around 30 replies, forwarded to Sean Hutton (via the Convenor) for analysis and eventual processing.
6. The Irish Studies Centre at PNL expressed positive interest in and support for OCN initiatives and asked to be represented at next Sub-Committee meeting.

Nessan J. E. DANAHER
BAIS Ad. Ed. Sub-Committee Convenor



British Association for Irish Studies

Executive Director:
Seán Hutton
9 Poland Street
London W1
Tel: 01-439 3043

MR. N. DANAHER, B.A., M.Ed.
Irish Studies Workshop
Soar Valley College
Gleneagles Avenue
Leicester LE4 7GY
(Tel: 0533-669625, ext. 246)

THE MANAGEMENT OF CHANGE IN ADULT, FURTHER AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION: IRISH DIMENSIONS WITHIN CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

A variety of matters are currently focussing debate:

- the integrated curriculum linking AE/FE and the NC
- relevant dimensions within the new National Curriculum
- certificated courses (at 16+ and 18+) and current planning for change
- the Open College Network and access courses
- cross-curricular issues such as multicultural and gender awareness and citizenship
- the co-ordination of initiatives, regionally and nationally
- funding and support issues; library services input

The British Association for Irish Studies, in collaboration with the Irish Studies Workshop at Soar Valley College, is running an in-service development day on Monday, 24th JUNE 1991, at Soar Valley Community College, Gleneagles Avenue, Leicester, LE4 7GY, Tel: 0533 669625 (ext 246).

Fee: £20.00 (to include documentation, refreshments and lunch). Receipts will be issued to participants on the day.

Please make cheques payable to 'Irish Studies Workshop'. Certificates of Attendance will be provided. Return reply slip by 10 JUNE 1991 to Mr N Danaher, address as above.

We look forward to working with you. Please bring samples of course modules/materials to the meeting, with sufficient copies (20) for circulation.

BAIS/IRISH STUDIES WORKSHOP - IN-SERVICE TRAINING

COURSE TITLE: The Management of Change in Adult, Further and Community Education:
Irish Dimensions within Current Developments

DATE: Monday, 24th JUNE 1991 (10.30 am - 4.00 pm)

FEE: £20.00 to institutions; £10.00 to individuals/students/unwaged.
Please make cheques payable to 'Irish Studies Workshop'.

RETURN TO: Mr N Danaher before 10 June (address as above).

I wish to register for this Inset Day and enclose the fee of £.....

Name

Address

..... Tel No

Signature Date