

## UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs Programme

### UNESCO Chair Annual Progress Report

UNESCO Chair:	<b>Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy</b>
Institution:	<b>University of Ulster</b> Coleraine, BT52 1SA, Northern Ireland www.ulster.ac.uk
Date Chair Established:	1999
Period of Activity Under Report:	January 2007- July 2008
Report Established By:	<b>Professor Alan Smith, UNESCO Chairholder</b> Email: a.smith@ulster.ac.uk ; Tel : +44 (0)28 703 24137 www2.ulster.ac.uk/staff/a.smith.html

#### **1. Executive Summary:**

*Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO) (Not exceeding 500 words)*

The UNESCO Chair at the University of Ulster was established in 1999 and provided a basis for the establishment of a UNESCO Centre following a visit by Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO in February 2001. The priority is research and development on Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy.

The UNESCO Centre has attracted funding of £5.2 million over the five-year period (2002-07), including £1.4m from Atlantic Philanthropies and a further £3.8m from a variety of sources including the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Nuffield Foundation, NI Department of Education, the Royal Irish Academy, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the European Union, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank.

To date the Centre has completed more than 30 research and development projects. In a local context, projects have included government evaluations of community relations in Northern Ireland (NI); research into the impact of academic selection (with QUB) that has led to the abolition of the 'eleven-plus' from 2008; research into integrated education in NI funded by the Nuffield Foundation; the introduction of citizenship education based on human rights to the NI Curriculum for all schools from September 2008.

The UNESCO Centre has also received funding from DFID to establish an International Development programme. The programme includes the establishment of an advisory board, an undergraduate minor in international development, an inter-disciplinary network of research staff in international development, networking activities including a lecture and seminar series and a university portal for international development. Highlights this year:

- Completion of a three-year research project on Values in Teacher Education funded by the UK ESRC
- Completion of a four-year evaluation of the introduction of citizenship education to the NI Curriculum
- Undertaking a comparative research project funded by the EU on the role of education in dealing with the legacies of conflict involving children and young people in Northern Ireland and Bosnia Herzegovina
- Establishment of an international development programme at the University of Ulster funded by DFID
- Participation in a research capacity-building project between Irish and African universities in Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda funded by Irish Aid
- Participation in the editorial team that led to joint the UNESCO/UNICEF Publication *A Human Rights Based Approach to Education for All* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001548/154861E.pdf>
- Participation in the Inter Agency Network for Education and Emergencies (INEE) Working Group on Education and Fragile States <http://www.ineesite.org/page.asp?pid=1488>
- Preparation of an expert paper on *Children, Education and Reconciliation* as part of a series of UN papers on Children and Transitional Justice for the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence [http://www.unicef-irc.org/research/resource\\_pages/trans\\_justice/](http://www.unicef-irc.org/research/resource_pages/trans_justice/)

## 2. **Activities:**

Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period

### a) Education/Training/Research

(key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period)

i) Education	Minor in Education (UK undergraduate modules – 1 semester each) EDU101C2 Local and Global Citizenship 92 students (30 male; 62 female) EDU 516 Education and Conflict 12 students (4 male; 8 female)  Minor in International Development (UK undergraduate modules – 1 semester each) EDU102C1 Introduction to International Development 18 students (2 male; 16 female) EDU 103C2 International Organisations in Development 20 students (3 male; 17 female)  International Programme on Democracy and Social Change 11 students (1 male; 10 female)  EDU845/6C Masters in Learning for a Shared Society 21 students (14 male; 7 female)
ii) Training	Four, two-day courses for Community Work and Reconciliation for 80 adults (38 male; 42 female)
iii) Research	Five external research grants held during 2007-08:  2002-08 Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy (Smith) Atlantic Philanthropies, £1,358,114  2005-08 Values and Teacher Education Policy in Northern Ireland (Smith, Moran, McCully, Clarke), ESRC TLRP, £126,000  2006-09 International Development programme (Smith) DFID, £299,613  2007-08 Legacies of Conflict: The Basque Country, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland (Smith, Wilson, Magill), European Union, £169,000  2008-11 European Values Study (EVS) (Smith, Lewis, Montgomery), European Values Foundation, €58,285

### b) Conferences/Meetings

(key conferences and meetings organised by the Chair or to which its Chairholder contributed)

- Speaker, ESRC UK Debate 'Choice in Education' (Belfast, 29 Jan 2007)
- Speaker, *Conflict, Education and the Global South* (University of Amsterdam, 26-28 Feb 2007)
- Research visit, *The Role of Education in Dealing with the Past* (OSCE, Sarajevo, 12-14 Mar 2007)
- Speaker, *Faith Schools and Development* (University of Edinburgh, 17-18 May 2007)
- Education and Fragile States, Save The Children (London, 30 Aug 2007)
- World Conference on Comparative Education (Sarajevo, 3-6 Sept 2007)
- Appointed to Basque President's Advisory Group on the Peace Process, (Vittoria, 17-18 Sept 2007)
- DFID Commissioning Panel £13 million research prog. on poverty reduction (London, 11-12 Sept 2007)
- European Values Study, meeting of country directors (Brno, Czech Republic, 8-11 Nov 2007)
- UNESCO Chairs Symposium (Nottingham, 17-18 Jan 2008) [www.unesco.org.uk/UNESCO\\_Chairs\\_Colloquium.htm](http://www.unesco.org.uk/UNESCO_Chairs_Colloquium.htm)
- Representative on Universities Ireland on Irish and African Universities Research Capacity Building initiative funded by Irish Aid (8-10 Apr 2008) [www.universitiesireland.ie/news/iap-launch.php](http://www.universitiesireland.ie/news/iap-launch.php)
- International Network for Education and Emergencies, Working Group (Istanbul, 14-16 Apr 2008) <http://www.ineesite.org/page.asp?pid=1488>
- Expert meeting on *Children and Transitional Justice*, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (Florence, 12-13 Jun 2008) [http://www.unicef-irc.org/research/resource\\_pages/trans\\_justice/](http://www.unicef-irc.org/research/resource_pages/trans_justice/)

### c) Interuniversity Exchanges/Partnerships

(principal exchanges/partnerships between the Chair and other institutions)

- Advisory Professor, Hong Kong Institute of Education (Nov-Dec 2007)
- Co-organised an ESRC TLRP research symposium on Teaching, Learning and Assessment involving 30 researchers from the UK and Asia (Hong Kong, 21-25 April 2008)
- Partnership with University of Limerick, Ireland for European Values Study (EVS) [www.europeanvalues.nl](http://www.europeanvalues.nl)
- Partnership with UNESCO Chair, University of Galway on Wellbeing of Children in Ireland report

### d) Publications/Multimedia Materials

(major publications and teaching/learning materials)

tick relevant fields of output and indicate volume of output:

	[tick]	[no.]
Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (edited)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (chapters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2
Monographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Research Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1
Journal Articles (refereed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1
Conference Proceedings & Occasional Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teaching/Learning Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (CD-Rom)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Video)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.

- Smith, A. (2007) Conflict and Education for All. In: Jones-Parry, R. (ed) *Commonwealth Education Partnerships 2007*, London, Commonwealth Secretariat, Nexus Strategic Partnerships. The official publication for the 16th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers, Cape Town. Cht 3, pp.65-91. ISBN: 9780954962913,
- Smith, A. (2007) Review. Devolution and Pluralism in Education in Northern Ireland, *British Journal of Educational Studies*, 55(2), 221-224.
- Smith, A. (2007) Education and Conflict: an emerging field of study In: Leach, F. and Dunne, M. (eds) *Education, Conflict and Reconciliation: International Perspectives*, Oxford, Peter Lang.
- Editorial Team (2007) A Human Rights-Based Approach to Education For All, UNESCO and UNICEF; Paris and New York, 2007. ISBN: 978-92-806-4188-2. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001548/154861E.pdf>

#### Selected previous publications:

- Vaux, T., Smith, A. and Subba, S. (2006) Education For All in Nepal: Review from a conflict perspective, London, International Alert. Available at: <http://www.international-alert.org/publications/250.php>
- Niens, U., Reilly, J. and Smith, A. (2006) Human Rights Education as Part of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland, *Journal of Social Science Education* Vol. 1, 2006. Available at: <http://www.jsse.org/2006-1/index.html>
- Smith, A. (2005) Education in the Twenty-First Century: Conflict, Reconstruction and Reconciliation, *Compare*, Vol. 35, No. 4: 373-391.
- Smith, A. (2005) Investing in Systemic Change through Curriculum, Textbooks and Teachers, In: *Education, Social Cohesion and Diversity*, Washington, DC, The World Bank, Chapter 2, pp. 2-18. <http://info.worldbank.org/etools/docs/library/211190/Smith.pdf>
- Smith, A. & O Maoláin, C. (2004) Challenging Intolerance. *New Directions for Youth Development*. Harvard, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Jossey-Bass, Summer 2004, pp. 95-108.
- Smith, A. & Vaux, T. (2003) *Education, Conflict and International Development*. London, UK Department for International Development (DFID).
- Smith, A. Citizenship Education in Northern Ireland: beyond national identity? (2003) *Cambridge Journal of Education*, Vol.33, No.1, pp.15-31.
- Smith, A. Fountain, S. & McLean, H. (2002) *Civic Education in Primary and Secondary Schools in the Republic of Serbia*. Belgrade. UNICEF, UNESCO and Open Society Institute.
- Smith, A., Kerr, D. and McCartney, S. (2002) Citizenship Education in Britain and Ireland, *European Journal of Education*, Spring 2002, pp.179-192.
- Smith, A.(2001) Religious Segregation and the Emergence of Integrated Schools in Northern Ireland, *Oxford Review of Education*, Vol. 27, No. 4, pp.559-75.

**e) Other***(any other activities to report)*

During this period the UNESCO Chair was also involved in the following:

- External examiner PhD, University of Birmingham (2007)
- Associate Editor, Irish Educational Studies, Official Journal of the Educational Studies Association of Ireland
- Editorial Boards of Journal of Education, Citizenship and Social Justice (Sage) and International Journal of Development Education (Trentham)
- Journal Reviewer (Australian Journal of Political Science; British Journal of Educational Studies; European Journal of Education; Oxford Journal of Education)
- University of London, Institute of Education, Advisory Board for Development Education Research Centre
- Member of Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), Senior Fellowships Board (2008) <http://www.irchss.ie/awards/scheme05.html>
- Appointed to Irish Higher Education Authority (HEA), Working Group on the future of Humanities and Social Science Research (2008-09) <http://www.heai.ie/en/node/1057>

### 3. Available Resources

Overview of resources placed at the disposal of the Chair in the reporting period

#### a) Human Resources

The UNESCO Chair in Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy is a full-time, permanent academic post based within the School of Education and funded by the University of Ulster.

The University also funds the costs of a full-time Senior Lecturer as Assistant Director for the UNESCO Centre.

All other posts are funded by extra-budgetary resources raised from external donors. During the current reporting period (2007-08) the number of externally-funded, full-time posts associated with the UNESCO Chair were:

1 Senior Lecturer  
3 Lecturers  
2 Research Fellows  
2 Research Associates  
1 Secretary

2 Interns (voluntary)  
6 postgraduate PhD students

In addition, 2 staff were seconded to the UNESCO Centre (Ms Carmel Gallagher on secondment from the NI curriculum authorities and Dr Alison Montgomery on secondment from the NI Assembly).

Prof Sean Farren, former NI Minister of Finance is an Honorary Professor at the UNESCO Centre and chairs an International Development Advisory Group that includes Myles Wickstead, former Chair UK Commission for Africa.

#### b) Other Resources

<i>tick sources of financial contribution</i>	[tick]
Host Institution	√
Partner Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government Body	√
Other Public Institution/Body (incl. Research Councils)	√
UNESCO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other UN Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
IGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Private	√

Since the Chair was established, £5.2 million of extra-budgetary funding has been raised, including £1.4m from Atlantic Philanthropies and a further £3.8m from a variety of sources including the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Nuffield Foundation, NI Department of Education, the Royal Irish Academy, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the European Union, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank.

The University provides office space, heat, light etc recovered from overheads included in research grants.

During the current reporting period (2007-08) five external research grants were held:

2002-08	Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy (Smith) Atlantic Philanthropies, £1,358,114
2005-09	Values and Teacher Education Policy in Northern Ireland (Smith, Moran, McCully, Clarke), ESRC TLRP, £126,000
2006-10	International Development programme (Smith) DFID, £299,613
2007-09	Legacies of Conflict: The Basque Country, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland (Smith, Wilson, Magill), European Union, £169,000
2008-11	European Values Study (EVS) (Smith, Lewis, Montgomery), European Values Foundation, €58,285

#### **4. Future Plans and Development Prospects:**

**Outline of action plan for the next biennium. And short/medium and long term development prospects. Please feel free to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced**

The next phase of research and development will have a stronger focus on children and young people; promote interdisciplinarity; and strengthen the commitment to international development.

In practical terms this will be achieved by concentrating on the following three areas over the next biennium:

##### **1. The well-being of children in Ireland**

This initiative involves a partnership with the UNESCO Chair at the University of Galway to establish a sustainable, bi-annual monitoring programme on the well-being of children in Ireland (North and South). An interdisciplinary approach will be adopted and the programme will provide an independent, critical analysis of investments, services and outcomes for children and young people. The synthesis of research evidence will provide a basis for advocacy and impact on policy and practice. The research framework will take account of international norms and standards for child rights and protection. Two proposals for external funding are in preparation to establish the programme in 2009 and publish a first report by the end of 2010.

##### **2. Education, conflict and international development**

This strand will build on the existing work of the UNESCO Chair arising from an earlier research report for DFID ([Smith and Vaux, 2003](#)). Currently, the work is being taken forward in two ways:

- i. Education and Fragility. Contribution to a research programme on the provision of education in fragile states through membership of the Inter Agency Network on Education in Emergencies (INEE) over the next two years. It is estimated that that out of the 115 million primary aged children who are not in primary education one in three live in a country affected by conflict ([Save The Children, 2006](#)). INEE has appointed a coordinator based in UNESCO, Paris and the initiative includes EU research on the relationship between governance and the provision of education in fragile states.
- ii. Education and Reconciliation. A current project on the role of education in dealing with the past and contributing to reconciliation in post-conflict societies is funded by the European Union (£165,000). This involves comparative research with children and young people in Bosnia Herzegovina and Northern Ireland. The research will be completed and disseminated in 2008. It will also contribute to a paper on children, education and reconciliation being prepared for the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.

##### **3. The role of the university in international development**

The UNESCO Centre is the focal point for the following two initiatives involving the University of Ulster:

- i. DFID has provided funding (£300,000) over a three-year period until August 2009 to strengthen the university's commitment to international development. This is one of a number of higher education initiatives in the UK supported by the [DFID Development Awareness Fund](#).
- ii. Irish Aid has provided funding (€1,300,000) over a three-year period to support a [Universities Ireland](#) partnership network involving 9 universities in Ireland (North and South) and universities in Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda. The focus of the initiative is poverty reduction through research capacity building in health, education, gender and information and communications technologies (ICT).

Both of these initiatives raise longer-term questions about the role of higher education in international development and the contribution of universities to the elimination of poverty. A number of activities are planned over the next biennium to address these questions, including:

- International development lecture series, Irish Minister for International Development (Oct 2008)
- Participation in Universities Ireland research capacity building workshop (Uganda, 10-14 Nov 2008)
- Host the next UK UNESCO Chairs colloquium at University of Ulster (Belfast, 22-23 Jan 2009)
- International conference - the role of higher education in development (Coleraine, 21-23 Apr 2009)

These activities have the potential to contribute to a longer-term international development plan for the University of Ulster and to the [UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education](#) (Paris, 6-8 July 2009)