



# Meeting the Needs of Part-time Distance Learning Students

Professor Jeremy Bradshaw

Head of the Graduate School, International Dean

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

The University of Edinburgh

# Background



- 2003: the University splits into 3 Colleges
  - Science and Engineering
  - Humanities and Social Science
  - Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
- CMVM decides to have single graduate school
- 2005: first OLDL programme launches
- Very few OLDL programmes in CHSS, none in CSE

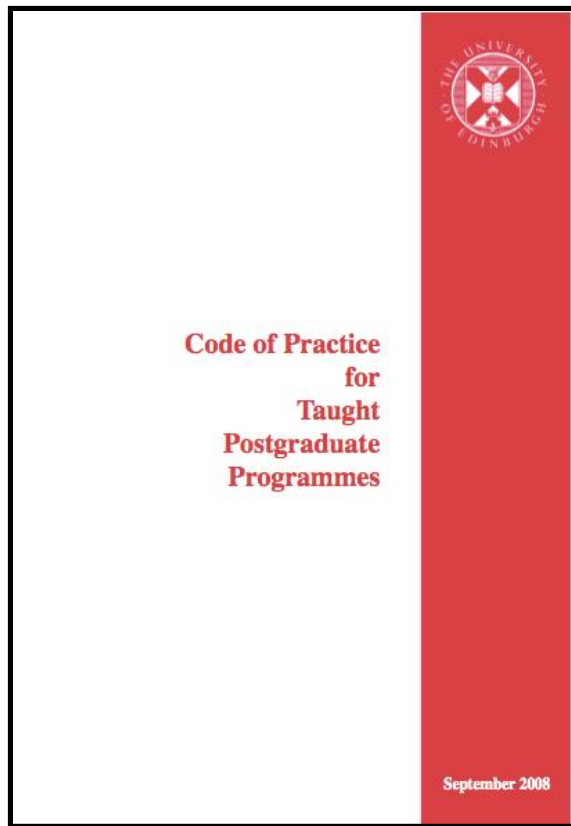
# Current OLDL Students



	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Anaesthesia Practice	7	9	12
Clinical Education	20	13	12
ENID	7		
Equine Science	17		
Forensic Medicine and Science	7	2	
Health Informatics	6		
Health Informatics Governance	3		
International Animal Health	22	17	11
Neuroimaging	12	5	
Pain Management	24	22	2
Surgical Sciences	101	34	
Translational Medicine	22	8	
Total	248	110	37

358 on-line (part-time) students

# Governance



- Need to revise regulations and codes of practice
  - Residency
  - Matriculation
  - Discrimination

# DDA (Sept. 2006)



- Accessibility
- Reporting
- Assessment
- Reasonable adjustments
- Styles of assessment

# Provision



- Desk space, lab space, computer, consumables, library resources etc.
- Access to staff (PPR findings)
- Reliability of servers

# Projects



- Consistency and equivalence
- QA issues: projects and supervisors
- Appeals culture
- Alternatives

# Community



- Chat rooms (not as good as F2F)
- Synchronous lectures in MSc in Clinical Education
- Summer schools
- SMS



# Concluding Remarks



- “Needs” or “Expectations”?
- Not worse, not better, but different
- Challenges and opportunities.



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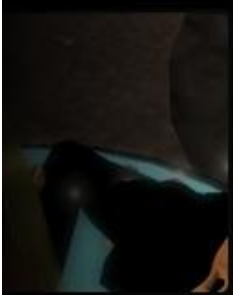
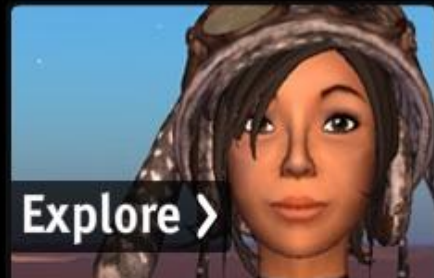
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From The Times  
June 18, 2007

## Today's tutorial will take place on the virtual beach

Alexander Freaan, Education Editor

The real thing may be a pasty-faced, greasy-haired science student but on a virtual campus he could be an Adonis.

Increasing numbers of British universities are setting up shop in Second Life, the virtual world where users can design exactly how they look – and where the educational establishments say that there are boundless new opportunities for teaching and research.

At Edinburgh University, one of the first in Britain to build its own island there, students from all around the world take part in tutorial groups sitting on a virtual beach around a campfire....