Association of Colleges

The Future of Further Education Annual Forum

Technology for an unknown future

Pat Bacon

President Association of Colleges

Principal St Helens College

24 June 2010

The role of the President

Association of Colleges

- to help deliver a first class service to our members
- to be the voice of our students, staff and communities
- to put Further Education colleges at the heart of policy making

The present

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- Economic crisis
- Machinery of Government
- General Election 2010

Priorities for a College Principal

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- to continuously improve the student experience, achievement and progression
- to deliver value for money – increasingly with reducing public revenue
- College reputation and partnership

The Future

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- Public sector cuts
- Total Place
- Apprentice professionals – higher skills
- Invest to save – invest to grow

The role of Technology

AoC Technology Portfolio Group

Colleges 2020 (AoC/IPPR)

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Fresh directions for teaching and Further Education – Alan Brown

- a move from competence development towards skill development
- using technology to enhance the effectiveness of teaching and learning
- recognising the importance of social and affective dimension of learning in FE

The Potential of Technology

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- personalisation
- on line information
- learning resources – including self study
- social networking
- to make the challenging engaging

The Potential of Technology

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- to demonstrate
- to create peer to tutor communication
- to open peer to peer channels
- on line assessment
- e-portfolios

Approaches to embedding new and emerging technologies

- BTEC IT practitioners
  - How technology can be used to support students at crucial times of their learning experience.
- MoLeNET
  - Mobile devices used to support and enhance teaching and learning in the 21st century.
- European Projects
  - Want2b – use of the VLE with European Partners to share good practice within the Entrepreneurial Agenda.