LIDC

London International Development Centre

Cooperating in research and teaching while retaining independence - the Bloomsbury experience

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London International Development Centre

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The Bloomsbury Colleges Group are 6 specialist University of London Colleges

Royal Veterinary College
University of London

Leading education and social research
Institute of Education
University of London

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

SOAS
University of London

Birkbeck
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The School of Pharmacy
University of London

Joint Bloomsbury Initiatives

- The Bloomsbury Group was established in 2004 with the aim of avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort, to gain the benefits of critical mass whilst maintaining the independence of each College to pursue specialist missions
- Examples of shared services/activities:
  - Bloomsbury Learning Environment
  - Bloomsbury PhD Fellowships
  - London International Development Centre

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LIDC History and Objectives

LIDC was established by the Bloomsbury Colleges in 2007 with a £3.7m start up grant from Higher Education Funding Council England towards accomodation and a secretariat

LIDC objectives: inter-College collaboration on:

- Innovative, inter-disciplinary research
- Analyses to provide an evidence base for policy
- New training approaches for tomorrows professional
- Partnerships with southern HEIs to build capacity

By working across Colleges/disciplines, LIDC will generate new opportunities that would not otherwise have happened.

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The LIDC Community and function

- Sharing development activities across the Colleges, including seminars, courses, through website and newsletters, organizing cross-College events.
- A membership organisation – over 2000 members
- A physical presence integrating research teams from each College and meeting rooms
- Secretariat – Director, Research Development Officer, Communications Officer, Manager, Secretary
- Small budget for organizing meetings, publications, short consultancies for project development

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Research and Teaching Collaboration

- Organize workshops around development issues with cross-College, interdisciplinary potential
- Help College staff to develop cross-College proposals for funding, courses, publications.
- Since 2008 LIDC has facilitated
  - Over 30 interdisciplinary workshops/conferences on development issues
  - 19 cross-College proposals for research funding with a total value of £25m
  - And won 10 projects with a total value of £18m and a value to Colleges of £5.5.

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Leverhulme Centre for

Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health

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LCIRAH is a new Centre established under a five-year £3.5m grant from The Leverhulme Trust to build a new intersectoral and interdisciplinary platform for integrating research in agriculture and health, with a focus on international development goals.

This Centre is enabling researchers from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, School of Oriental and African Studies, School of Pharmacy, Royal Veterinary College and their partners, to work together to develop unifying research approaches and methodologies that integrate agricultural and health research. The aim is to better address complex global issues surrounding the need to feed nine billion people healthily by 2050. The research programme, which involves anthropologists, economists, agricultural researchers, public health professionals, and nutritionists will explore a range of themes with agricultural and health components, including:

- Poverty and Development
- Diet, Globalisation and Food Quality
- Sustainability, Environment and Climate Change
- Agriculture, Health and Food-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases
- Metrics for Agriculture and Health

Conferences

Currently no Conferences coming up but please check back soon.

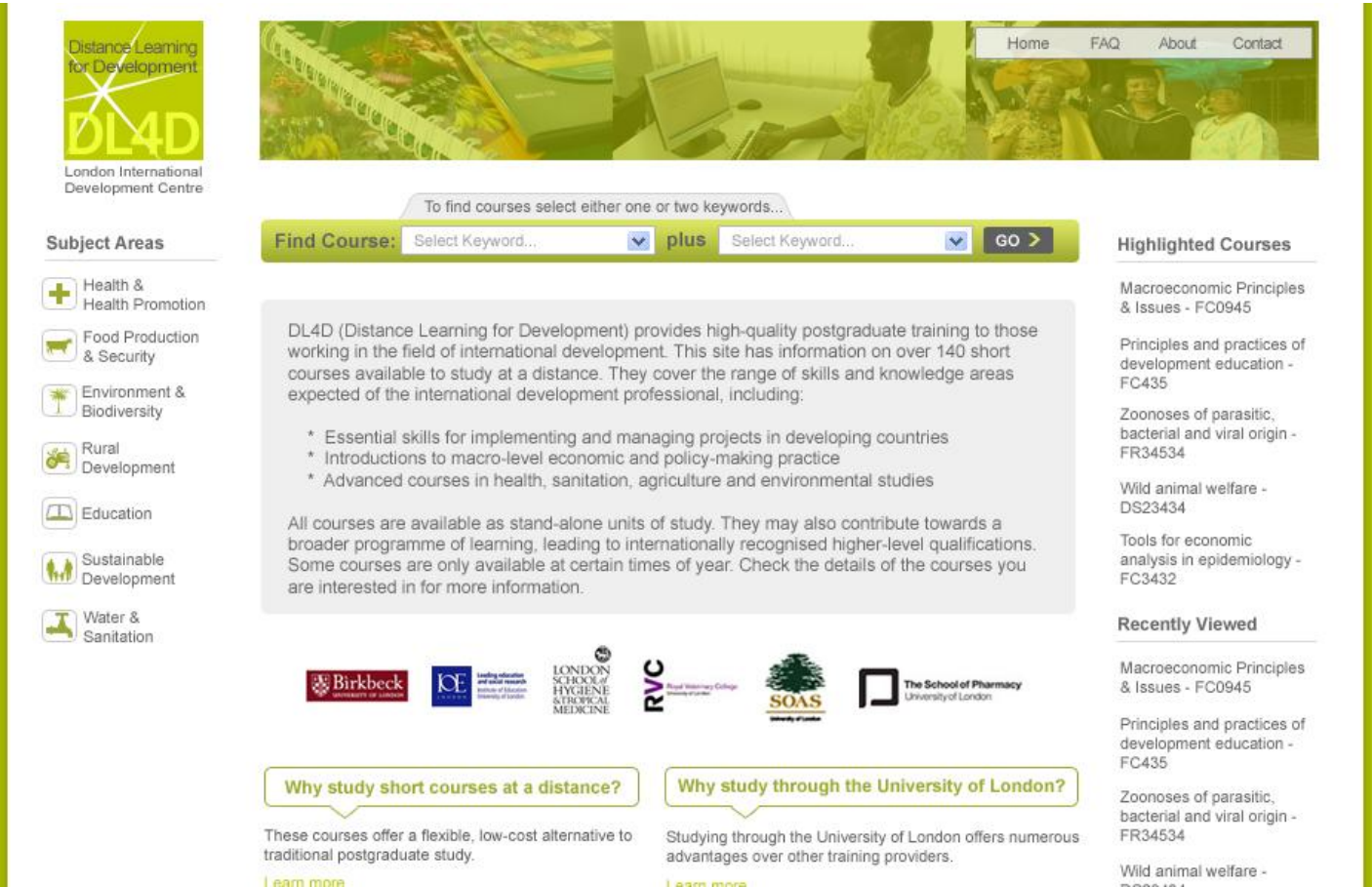
News

Global Food and Farming report: Experts from several Bloomsbury Colleges working in the Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health contribute to a ground-breaking Government Foresight Report on Food and Farming Futures.

more..

Research and Teaching Collaboration

- LIDC has also initiated four projects to develop cross-College development degrees and courses



LIDC Business Model

- Services free of charge to College staff
- LIDC does not do projects, only helps Colleges to develop them, and hands them over
- Colleges fund LIDC from a topslice of their core budgets
- Benefits of LIDC are calculated from income, etc. to each College, according to agreed “attribution” formula
- Each College pays an annual subscription, and then contributes to outstanding costs in proportion to benefit
- LIDC in transition from start-up to full College funds

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Observations from LIDC experience

- Inter-institutional collaborations may be easier to maintain than intra-institutional collaborations
- Having a successful and established inter-Collegiate, interdisciplinary model helps to win new funding
- Critical need to agree methods for valuing costs/benefits
- Shared service models for research etc have to grow to thrive, which means expanding participation

THANK YOU FROM LIDC

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