

Greetings from the Institute

Best wishes from the Institute's Board to all members, sponsors and friends. The Institute is working hard to make sure our profession gets the recognition it deserves. Since the IEDP's first executive Board was elected in July 2009, we have been working hard to build services for all members. We have just launched our new website at <http://www.iedp.org.uk/>.

The Institute is a learning body that will award accreditation to equality, diversity and human rights practitioners. We intend to improve the position of practitioners who work in our relatively new and unstructured profession, often without formal qualifications.

Competencies and Assessment Framework

One of our working groups is developing the Institute's *Competencies and Assessment Framework*. The framework is important to all practitioners, employers and businesses since it will establish the structure for agreed practice standards across the equality, diversity and human rights sector. We will soon consult with members and others, asking for views on the draft framework. We hope to finalise it in time for approval at this year's AGM.

Events - learning and networking

The Institute is holding two events in London during March 2010. Advance information is below. Please book soon, places are limited.

Masterclass on Equality Impact Assessments

The masterclass on equality impact assessments takes place on 23 March 2010. It is for anyone interested in understanding how to do equality impact assessments; scrutinise them for effectiveness; and use them to benefit strategy and operations in the public, commercial and third sector businesses. It includes practical tools and tips that are tried and tested as good practice models.

Round Table for Practitioners: Preparing for the Equality Act 2010

The round table for practitioners takes place on 30 March 2010 and includes networking. The Institute organises round table events so that practitioners in all business sectors may explore and discuss issues of professional interest; share

experience and expertise; and benefit from continuing professional development in a peer-to-peer setting.

For more information and booking forms, go to <http://www.iedp.org.uk/Events.aspx>

New website: your ideas needed

<http://www.iedp.org.uk>

The Institute's new website has just been launched. We know you want it so decided to launch the website early, even though we don't have all the material ready for uploading. When you join or renew your membership, you will receive a password that gives you access to the restricted area of the website. This area holds a growing range of essential resource material for practitioners.

We're adding news and information to the website all the time. If you would like us to add a document to our resources, such as news items or research reports, please send an email to info@iedp.org.uk, with 'Website suggestion for IEDP' in the subject bar.

Join the Institute

The IEDP is the professional body for equality, diversity and human rights practitioners. It is the only body dedicated to promoting high standards of professional practice whilst representing the interests of practitioners in our sector. Our independent voice needs to grow during this time of recession so that we can continue to advance equality and human rights for everyone. Your membership fees are vital to developing the Institute's services and maintaining its independence.

If you haven't joined the IEDP already, the annual membership fee costs the same as last year: £152.75 including VAT.

To find out how we define 'practitioner' go to <http://www.iedp.org.uk/About.aspx>

Member benefits for 2010

All IEDP members get access to a wide range of benefits, including:

- full access to the members' area of our website
- reduced fees for training courses
- access to our developing programme of training courses
- networking opportunities with other practitioners
- advice and support from senior practitioners
- opportunities to add your voice to IEDP formal responses, such as the EHRC consultation on the draft codes of practice and guidance for the Equality Bill

Future benefits

Member benefits are growing as our working groups develop new products and services. These include

- training courses for practitioners working at different levels
- accreditation of learning and professional practice
- growing range of website material, including:
 - library
 - case studies
 - reports of interest to practitioners
 - published and unpublished research

Your views needed

We want to plan a series of training courses for members and need you to tell us what you want. For example, are you interested in learning about the topics below?

- Implementing the codes of practice and guidance for the forthcoming Equalities Act
- Doing effective equality impact assessments
- Integrating equalities into procurement
- Human Rights Act 1998 and public sector duties
- Advising Boards and working groups about equality and human rights
- Using equality law to improve performance management

Do you have other suggestions?

To tell us your views, please send an email to info@iedp.org.uk, putting in the subject bar: *Training course suggestions for IEDP*.

Finally...

I hope you enjoyed reading the Institute's newsletter. I welcome your ideas for future editions.

Please circulate this newsletter to anyone who may be interested in our work or who may wish to join the Institute.

Best wishes

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