

Since December 2007 the Library & Information Services department of the University of Teesside has been leading the JISC-funded UKAN-SKILLS Project (<http://lis.tees.ac.uk/ukan/>) that aims to make easier the curriculum mapping and support of student skills development.

Janet Hale, a leading international curriculum mapping consultant, trainer, and author of “*A Guide to Curriculum Mapping: Planning, Implementing, and Sustaining the Process*” (www.curriculummapping101.com) has been a project partner with UKAN-SKILLS. She has worked with hundreds of schools in the US and describes curriculum mapping as:

“a dynamic curriculum communication model. By teachers providing evidence of both the planned learning and what is actually learned, mapping allows for creating a collaborate environment that empowers teachers to be leaders in curriculum decision making.”

Janet through the use of RubiconAtlas, an on-line curriculum mapping system, has developed sample map units for University of Teesside programme courses that add an interactive dimension to both curriculum design and learning evidence.

John Pallister, a teacher in the North East of England and Skills Trainer has also worked with UKAN-SKILLS to utilise RubiconAtlas to ‘curriculum map’ an ICT course and link it to the Functional Skills Standards and the Personal Learning and Thinking Skills framework. John has begun to explore the potential of using the curriculum mapping process to support personalised learning and enhance personal and collegial curriculum engagement.

Although UKAN-SKILLS has been aimed at higher education, joint work between Janet and John has identified the potential, for UK school and colleges, of the on-line mapping process to enhance collegial dialogue and curriculum engagement. Funding from the Library & Information Services department of the University of Teesside is enabling John’s work to be taken further as part of the University’s commitment to the wider educational community.

Janet will be visiting the University of Teesside on 7th May 2009 at 2.00pm. This will be a unique opportunity for you or someone from your school to hear Janet introduce the concepts involved in curriculum mapping. John will also share his experience using the on-line curriculum mapping tool to design a course and link it to Skills Standards. Following the presentations delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions, discuss what has been shared, and explore the potential of the curriculum mapping process and on-line mapping system.

If you and/or your colleagues wish to attend, please contact lisadministration@tees.ac.uk