One day seminar conference, 23rd April 2010
At The Royal Society of Medicine

New Media and Intellectual Disability: practical approaches in care and education

This conference day is designed to provide an up to date overview of the innovative ways in which new multimedia technologies and practices are currently being used to improve the provision of inclusive care and education for people with intellectual disabilities in the UK. The seminar will draw on innovative work in education, health and social care practice that may inform a future model of technology assisted support and provision for people with intellectual disabilities.

The event is hosted by the RSM Intellectual disability group and will be led by the Rix Centre who will chart the field in partnership with people with learning disabilities who are pioneering this work. The conference will provide models of contemporary practice alongside an account of the origins and possible futures of this exciting field.

Leading researchers and practitioners will also provide an in-depth account of the implementation of this unique way of working and analyse the potential benefits for patients, learners and service-users with intellectual disability.

Conference Programme

09.30-10.00   Registration, tea and coffee

10.00 -10.10   Welcome by *The Lord Brian Rix Kt, CBE, DL, Chancellor of University of East London*

10.10-10.40   **New media and intellectual disability – mapping of the 'multimedia advocacy' field**

Andy Minnion – Director of the Rix Centre, presents an overview of the origins of multimedia use with people with ID, identifies the influential factors that drive and shape today's best practice in education, health and social care.

DEMONSTRATIONS
David Morris - Disability campaigner, film maker and poet, currently leading on Inclusion for the London Organising Committee of the Olympic & Paralympic Games, Chairs a session led by people with disabilities presenting various experiences of working with new media around employment, learning, health and social care.

10.40 -11.10   **Hear what we have to say**

People with learning disabilities share the ways in which new media contributes to their daily lives. Presenters will include *Lisa Pegg* with support from Michaela Rose. *Ajay Choksi*, Technical Assistant at the Rix Centre and *Patricia Charlesworth*, Chair of Hackney People First, will also talk about their experiences as new media producers and consumers, and as self-advocates working in digital media.

11.10-11.40   **Make information easy for us to understand**

People with learning disabilities who have produced the Easyhealth.org.uk website will present their work and discuss how it was produced and the ways it is maintained by an inclusive web team. *Miles Leonard*, Programme Manager and *Vivek Pillai*, Multimedia Assistant from Ellingham Employment Services will describe how they produce easy to understand peer information for young people with learning difficulties about independent living and transition on the Click Start Project in East London.

11.40-12.00   Coffee - with IT displays

ANALYSIS
Professor Steve Trevillion – Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science at the University of East London, Chairs a session that unpacks the benefits of new media use, models ways that it can be used on the individual and organisational level and charts some of the obstacles encountered in its implementation.

12.00-12.30   **Impacts of new media methods on the individual for self advocacy and self determination**

Dr Karen Bunning – Leader of the Allied Health Professions Graduate Programme at UEA, profiles a set of individual case studies to understand the potential impact for interpersonal communication and the capacity to take greater control of ones own life and influence the shape one's support.

12.30 – 13.00   **Implementing new media practice**

Gosia Kwiatkowska – Principal Researcher at the Rix Centre, will share front line experiences and research findings from pilot implementations of new media across health and social care. She will use video to provide case studies and analysis of 4 different organisations facing the challenges of these new ways of working. *Barnaby Harris* from the Robert Owen Communities will follow this up with his organisation's vision for the integration of new media technologies into all aspects of the service that they provide for people with learning disabilities in the West Country.

13.00-14.00   Lunch- IT Displays

FUTURE POSSIBILITIES
Richard George Banks – Chair of the Social Care Association (Education), member of the Residential Forum and a consultant to the Social Care sector, Chairs the afternoon session that charts the shape of a future in which new media helps achieve the goals for human rights and inclusion for people with intellectual disability that are shared across health, social care and education.

14.00-14.30   **Multimedia goes mainstream – an integrated vision of future support for people with ID**

Pete Russell - Head of Community Solutions for Community Lives Consortium, asks how easily multimedia can really be integrated into existing systems, so that it becomes mainstream not just an optional extra when there is time. Pete will share a range of practical examples of how new media is replacing mainstream systems across the LD community in South Wales, a process that has been led by Community Lives Consortium with business and local authority partners. He

will describe the vision for a future in which these systems are effectively integrated into care and support for people with intellectual disabilities based on the hard experience that this 5-year programme has provided.

14.30-15.00   Almost There – Future classrooms today

Kieron Sheehy – Senior Lecturer at the Open University's Centre for Childhood, Development and Learning, presents a glimpse into a futuristic classroom using 'Robotics, Augmented and Virtual worlds' and shares what he has found out in his work in schools with young learners with intellectual disabilities and new technologies.

15.00 – 15.30   Innovations for inclusion

Nick Weldin - Senior Technologist at the Rix Centre, rounds off the day's presentations with a sample of his ground-breaking interface design research that enables people with complex disabilities to surf the web and participate in the digital world.

15.10-15.40   Panel
A concluding plenary, Chaired by *Andy Minnion,* will look at ways ahead in discussion with the Conference audience and panel members:

Patricia Charlesworth
David Morris
John Sewell

15.40-16.30   Evaluations and access to displays and demonstrations

16.30   END