

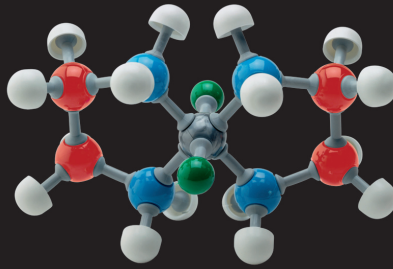
Networked Learning Communities Annual Conference 2005



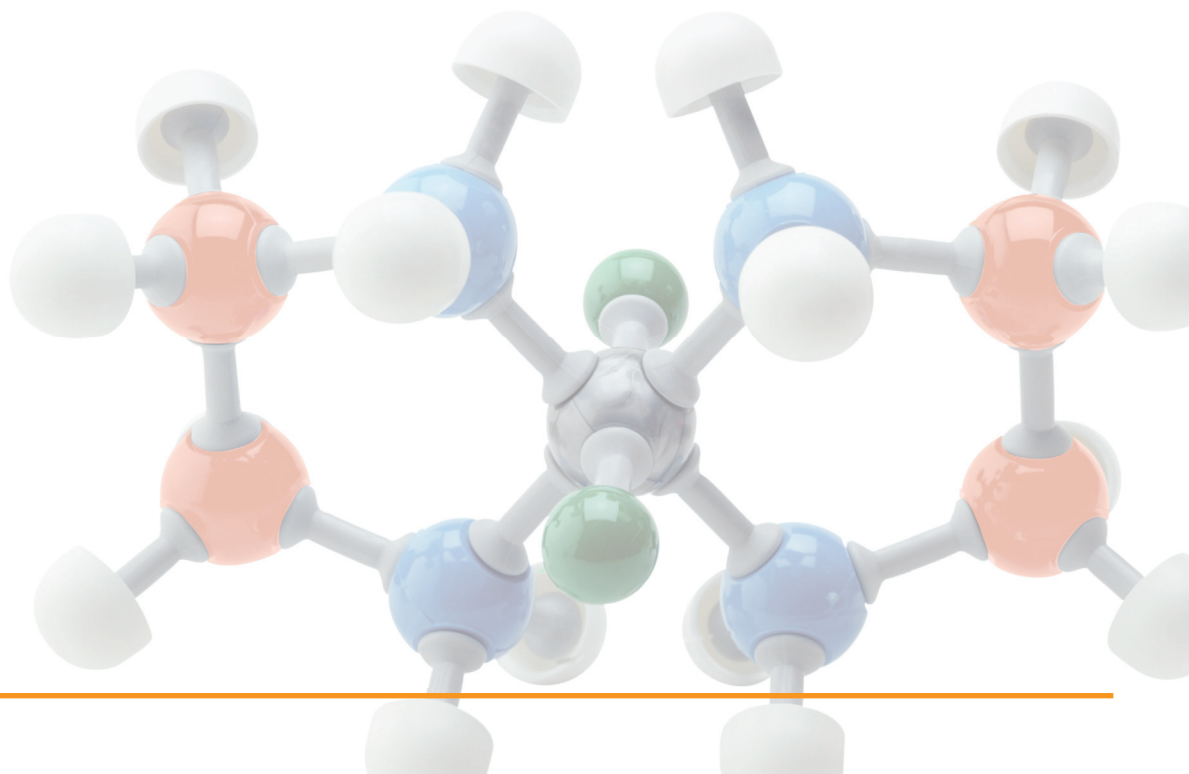
National College for  
School Leadership

The future is  
networked

23 June - ICC Birmingham



# Preparing for the NLC Annual Conference 2005



## Welcome

Welcome to your guide to preparing for the Annual Conference 2005. This leaflet is aimed to act as a starting point for your preparations and to spark your ideas.

The title of this year's conference is *The future is networked*. We hope to explore this theme through celebrating and sharing the learning from networked learning communities. We aim to build on the great successes of last year's conference and look forward to working with you.

## Call to action

At this stage of your preparations for the Annual Conference each network needs to do two things:

- 1 Plan a learning conversation which your network will host at the conference.
- 2 Produce a commentary on a selected network artefact which transfers your learning to others.

# About learning conversations...

A networked learning conversation is a planned conversation which allows you to reflect on your network practice in a structured way. The dialogue is facilitated and follows agreed protocols to guarantee maximum learning for all. If you are new to learning conversations or would like more detailed information about them, you can download a guide from [www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc)

**At this stage you need to decide on two things:**

- 1 The focus of your learning conversation and a title which describes this (see below).
- 2 The style you wish to use to frame your learning conversation (see opposite).

## Choosing the focus

It is useful to look at student learning, the work you have undertaken and its impact. It is also useful to talk about moving your work forward, ask questions of your conversation partners and listen to how they problem solve for you. It may also be helpful to consider the following:

- Which aspect of your work deserves appreciation?
- What have you learned that will be useful to others?
- What is a burning issue for your network right now?
- What could your network do to improve or develop further?

## Choosing the conversation style

There are four different methods from which to choose to frame your learning conversation. Please let us know which method you would like to use.

- 1 **Workshop** – where the conversation group comes together to share resources or create new ideas and solutions.  
**Suitable for: sharing a resource or solution with others.**
- 2 **Consultation** – where the conversation group comes together to transfer their knowledge about an area of learning and receive peer review on ideas.  
**Suitable for: sharing your knowledge about your chosen area of focus and receiving feedback on your progress.**
- 3 **Forum** – where the conversation group engages together to create new networked solutions to shared problems through debate and challenge.  
**Suitable for: problem-solving with others experiencing similar challenges.**
- 4 **Hotseat** – where a network member explores their personal learning journey and lessons learnt through engaging with questions from the audience.  
**Suitable for: sharing your personal perspectives on learning and leadership with others.**

## How to submit your details

Please complete your learning conversation details on the website at [www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc)

# About artefacts...

## Selecting a network artefact

In selecting a network artefact, you should choose the artefact which provides the most powerful example of learning from your network, which can be shared with others and inspire those visiting the conference who are new to networked learning.

## Examples of artefacts that transfer learning

An artefact can take any shape or form, the only limit is your imagination!

Examples include:

- Multi-media products such as a DVD, CD-Rom, video or audio recordings which capture key aspects of network activity and its outcomes.
- Print products such as newsletters, leaflets, magazines, booklets or research reports that focus on the work and outcomes of a networked initiative.
- Presentations or material used in a classroom display or exhibition which capture examples of network activities or processes.
- Resource-based products such as books, games, activity packs, teaching and learning materials or development tools suitable for use with pupil or adult learners.

## Producing your artefact commentary

When you have selected your network artefact you will need to write a commentary about it, which transfers your learning to others. The template for the commentary which you need to complete and a guide which explores how to approach it, can be downloaded at **[www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc)**

### How to send

Please send one copy of your artefact together with your artefact commentary by 20 May to the address below and we will reproduce copies for the conference at no cost to your network.

Send to:  
Kirsten Hill, Networked Learning Group, NCSL, Derwent House, University Way, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AZ

# Conference preparation check-list

Action	Submission date	Tick box ✓
Select an artefact that transfers an aspect of learning.		<input type="checkbox"/>
Write a commentary about your artefact by completing the template at <b><a href="http://www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc">www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc</a></b>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Send one copy of your artefact and commentary to: Kirsten Hill, Networked Learning Group, NCSL, Derwent House, University Way, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AZ <b><a href="mailto:kirsten.hill@ncsl.org.uk">kirsten.hill@ncsl.org.uk</a></b>	<b>20 May 2005</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Choose the focus of your learning conversation and create a title which describes this.		<input type="checkbox"/>
Select your chosen conversation style: workshop, consultation, forum or hotseat.		<input type="checkbox"/>
Please complete your learning conversation details on the website at <b><a href="http://www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc">www.ncsl.org.uk/nlc</a></b>	<b>20 May</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>