



Debbie Betteridge

Membership Grade: Fellow

Length of Membership: 1 year 8 Months

Current Position: Director

I am a very creative, enthusiastic and positive person committed to learning and development and making real the concept of a learning community. My commitment and enthusiasm for a professional body for the sector makes me want to support and further enhance the work of the IfL and take a positive role in shaping its future. For the last ten years I have been responsible for a full range of professional development opportunities across the sector and always seen this as a very important element for staff, I have supported as well as challenged professional practice. I am an excellent communicator and able to adapt my communication techniques to suit a range of different people. My own Senior Management roles have enabled me to develop and implement excellent leadership and management practice at both operational and strategic levels. I am committed to a culture of continuous improvement recognising that in order to improve we have to change. I have worked on a number of national as well as regional and locally based projects and the success of this activity has built me an excellent reputation as an effective consultant and project manager. I am very aware of the need to keep myself up to date on developments especially working within such a fast moving sector and as a Fellow Member of the Institute for Learning (IfL) I have a personal commitment to my own CPD and in ensuring that I maintain a high level of professional practice.

I have worked with a full range of people across the sector and contributed to developments such as:

- Establishing a consortia of colleges whose aim is to share practice
- The development of a validated professional development programme for support staff
- Establishing networks such as curriculum groups, HR, Skills for Life, Clerks and Staff Development
- Contribution to the development of national CPD programmes such as Skills for Life
- Promotion and use of reflection as part of personal and professional development
- Working with a number of colleges on engagement with WorldSkills and London 2011
- Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment in FE

Working within IfL at this important time of development would be for me a sincere privilege, in return I would fully utilise my own knowledge and experience enabling me to contribute effectively and add value to taking important developments forward for the sector.

I hope that the information supplied is helpful.



John Chorley

Membership Grade: Fellow

Length of Membership: 1 Year 3 Months

Current Position: Senior Lecturer & Admissions Tutor in Post-Compulsory Ed.

I left School at seventeen in 1968 to join the RAF and trained as a photographer. My first experience of technical training outside the RAF was a City and Guilds Full Tech Certificate at King's Lynn Technical College in 1969. Whilst serving in Germany I learnt to fly and gained my Private Pilot's Licence. My final tour of duty was at the School of Photography at RAF Cosford.

In the mid '70s I left the RAF and started teacher and became a voluntary youth leader. After graduating I taught in community schools in Walsall, ran adult education photography classes and continued my work as a youth leader.

I gained a Masters' Degree in Social Education and made the transition into Teacher Training. Since 1989 I have been part of the Post-Compulsory Education teacher training team at what is now the University of Wolverhampton.

I am currently Admissions Tutor for both the pre-service PGCE and in-service PGCE/Certificate in Education programs and annually interview over one hundred aspiring FE teachers. For the past eleven years I have also taught on a PGCE and Cert.Ed programme for instructors at – DCAE Cosford – over forty years since I started there as a trainee. I also still maintain my private pilots licence.

I have been an active trades unionist throughout my teaching career and have been NATFHE/UCU Branch Secretary since 1988.

I am academic staff representative on the University of Wolverhampton's Board of Governors, I have been a parent governor on infant, primary and secondary school governing bodies – the only sector I have not yet explored as a governor is that of Post-Compulsory Education.

I am an external examiner of a PGCE PCE programme in a large University in the South of England and also have worked on national projects in conjunction with other Post-Compulsory Teacher Training organisations,

I have committed the past twenty two years of my professional life to helping to train teachers, lecturers and instructors, predominantly for the post-compulsory sector. PCE is a dynamic and challenging sector, but I regularly come in to contact with colleagues who feel their working environment hinders them in their development as professionals and I truly believe in the importance of developing the profession to be more coherent and less of the 'Cinderella' of the education sectors.

I think that the Institute for Learning can help achieve this goal and I wish to be part of the IfL Council. As a 'Critical Friend', I would like to see the reaffirmation of concept of 'Professional Formation' and also ensure the embedding meaningful continual professional development as part of an entitlement for colleagues across the post-compulsory sector. I believe that the IfL should continue to consult extensively with members about the areas of policy and practice, have robust ways of listening to members so that IfL can effectively represent their interests. I would be honoured to be part of that process.



Rania Hafez

Membership Grade: Fellow

Length of Membership: 5 years 5 Months

Current Position: Director of Post Compulsory Education & Training

It has been a real privilege to be an elected council member of the IfL and to have been closely and actively involved in its development.

However there is still much to do. The IfL's priorities should be....

Professional autonomy – we need to continue to champion the rights of teachers. Teachers should be trusted to exercise their professional judgement both in the classroom and in their institutions. They need to be released from the tyranny of managerialism and bureaucracy, and allowed to get on with what they know and do best.

Independence – the IfL must be an organisation for its members led by its members. We have to stand firm for its independence and autonomy, and its right to be *the* professional voice of teachers and tutors. The IfL is not the employers' and government's enforcer but the advocate of the profession, setting and safeguarding professional standards by supporting teachers.

Support for Teachers – it is important that the IfL constantly reviews what it can do for its members. Benefits to the membership are paramount. Supporting the entitlement of teachers for relevant and career enhancing CPD that meet their individual and professional needs is a clear priority.

What I can offer is....

Skills & Experience – over eighteen years of teaching and training in FE at all levels, from 14-year-olds to adult learners. For the past five years I have been working in teacher education. It is a privileged position from which I have been able to support and develop many teachers in our sector. My experience has equipped me with a deep understanding of the sector from multiple perspectives and of the challenges facing teachers on a daily basis.

Passion & Vision – I am passionate about our sector! Over the past two years I have worked with colleagues on the IfL council to ensure its success. We have come a long way but there is still further to go. As I have been doing already, I will continue to champion the professionalism of teachers and promote their autonomy, and ensure respect for their professionalism.

Enthusiasm & Commitment: - Professionals in further education have long been the poor relations of school teachers. As a teacher, manager, parent, and most recently teacher educator, I have a unique insight into the practical needs of teachers both in terms of their own development and into the conditions and support needed to promote professional learning.

I am firmly committed to the principles and practice of equality and diversity, working towards identifying and removing barriers to entry, achievement and progression within the sector. I believe in actively promoting inclusiveness and anti-discriminatory practice and addressing under representation of minority groups in the sector.

My passion for further education and my commitment to the professionalism of its workforce have led me to stand for re-election. The IfL is a positive development for the sector. I would relish the opportunity to continue to act on your behalf and ensure the best possible future for teachers FE.



Jacki Hughes

Membership Grade: Fellow

Length of Membership: 1 year 6 Months

Current Position: Deputy Principal Preston College

I am currently the Deputy Principal at Preston College although I am still a teacher at heart.

After discovering boys, Babycham and the Bay City Rollers whilst still at school I left with a clutch of very average 'O' levels; just how useful could an 'A' in Creative Embroidery be? I trained as a Nursery Nurse in the FE College where I now work and then went on to a career nursing sick children.

My second career developed when I opened and managed a Day Nursery, learning about leadership and management, budgets and planning the hard way.

I returned to the FE fold when I studied part time for the 730 (remember that?) and I loved teaching, but was told that no-one would ever pay me to teach without a Degree. I don't think I would ever have thought university was for me in those days so studying for the first year in an FE setting was a blessing.

My third career was as a paid teacher in FE, first temporary and part time, (no security but great experience) then full time, permanent and very hard work. I will never forget all those weekends preparing hand written transparencies for the OHP, marking assignments (hundreds of them) whilst worrying all the time that someone was going to find out about my Creative Embroidery 'O' Level!

In the 20 years I have spent working in FE I have been lucky to have had some wonderful roles, a teacher, personal tutor, team leader, senior tutor responsible for adult learners in the days when widening participation was the top of everyone's list, Staff Development Manager and Head of both Community provision and Health and Social Care. I have worked with fabulous students and terrific colleagues and actually I am pleased to say I still do.

FE is often referred to as the Cinderella of education but it's not, it's the fairy godmother, and we need to hold on to that. The staff in FE change lives, we inspire, stimulate, challenge and help our students achieve their potential in ways that are more innovative, more successful than our pre-16 or university counterparts and for that we deserve to be recognised. Our professional body should be one of which we are proud to be part of, but only our membership can make it so

For the IFL to success it has to meet the needs of its members, it must demonstrate passion, clarity of vision and a robust approach in its support for teachers and teaching and I would love the chance to help it do so.

Those who know me know that I have an opinion on everything, that I am never afraid to speak out and that I care about the sector that has given me all my career chances. My USP is that I am a teacher who happens to be a Deputy Principal rather than a Deputy Principal who used to be a teacher....



Anthony Earle Wilkes

Membership Grade: Fellow

Length of Membership: 6 Years 8 Months

Current Position: Education and Training Advisor

I have been working in the education and training sectors since qualifying as a teacher in 1986, working in a diverse range of schools, colleges and work-based training organisations. I am currently employed as an independent specialist education and training advisor working throughout the UK with a broad range of individual colleges, work-based training organisations and not-for-profit education and training providers, supporting them in relation to:

- Learner Inclusion
- Management and leadership
- Teaching and learning
- Learner engagement
- Community engagement
- Learner retention and achievement
- Continuing professional development (CPD)
- Equity

Over the last 5 years I have been heavily involved with a range of national development programmes and initiatives as an independent specialist education and training advisor; for example:

- The Subject Learning Coach programme
- 14-19 New Diplomas
- 14-19 consortium management and leadership support programme
- Professional standards for teachers in the lifelong learning sector/system

I strongly believe in the work of the IfL as the voice for our profession and have been a Fellow of the Institute since 2002. Having spent over 3 years as a council board member of the General Teaching Council (GTC), I am able to bring a great deal of useful practical experience regarding the challenges and opportunities that face the IfL in taking forward its remit, particularly in relation to member engagement.

The lifelong learning sector/system faces many challenges going forward. If our sector/system is going to be able to withstand unworkable pedagogic interference; improve teaching and learning standards for all; influence and shape the direction of travel of our profession; unify a diverse professional workforce; enhance and secure high professional standards and public/learner confidence; it will need a strong professional body that has the confidence of its members to champion these issues. I strongly believe that the IfL is capable of meeting these challenges by galvanising and highlighting the hard work, commitment and expertise of its members and the wider profession.

Compared to many other professional bodies the IfL is in its infancy and I believe that my previous experience as a council board member with the GTC will enable me to bring valuable professional regulatory and council board membership knowledge and I would welcome the opportunity to join the IfL council and play a role in its continued development as the champion for the lifelong learning sector/system.