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The Work of the Centre

The Centre for Research in Education Inclusion and Diversity (www.creid.ed.ac.uk) was launched in November 2004. Its work focuses on social justice and equality in relation to education, training, lifelong learning and related fields such as employment. We have a particular interest in issues of intersectionality, specifically in relation to social class, gender, disability and ethno-religious identity. CREID attracts research income from a diverse range of funders, and is working in research and knowledge exchange partnerships with other universities in the UK and internationally. Funders include the UK and Scottish Governments, the European Commission, public bodies such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Universities Scotland, the voluntary sector and service user groups. Knowledge exchange activities during 2014 included the organisation of a number of high profile seminars and conferences and the publication of a series of research briefings. CREID’s current research falls under the following headings:

1. Education, Inclusion and Diversity
Projects focus on provision for children with additional support needs, including those at risk of school exclusion. Sheila Riddell and Elisabet Weedon completed work on the Leverhulme Trust international research network exploring policy changes in the field of special and inclusive education in six jurisdictions including Scotland, England, The Netherlands, Sweden, California, US and New South Wales, Australia. The project started in March 2012 and finished at the end of September 2014. The project team met in San Diego, California in February 2014 and in September 2014 we held a highly successful symposium at the ECER conference in Porto, Portugal. Details of the project and associated publications can be found at: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/sp-educ-n-policy-change/

Gillean McCluskey and Sheila Riddell together with Kay Tisdall and colleagues at the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR) worked with European partners (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Belgium and the Netherlands) on a project to identify best practice in working with children at risk of becoming involved with crime. On the 4th of December 2014, Mary Mitchell from the CRFR gave a presentation on behalf of the project team at the final conference “IJJO International Conference: Making Deprivation of Children’s Liberty a Last Resort: Towards evidence-based policies on alternatives” at Les Ateliers des Tanneurs, Brussels. Further details on this project at: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/youth-away-from-crime

2. Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Social Justice
Sheila Riddell was awarded an ESRC Scotland Senior Fellowship grant entitled Higher Education, the Devolution Settlement and the Referendum on Independence. This project was part of the ESRC’s Future of the UK and Scotland Programme, which was funded in order to provide impartial information to inform the debate on Scottish independence. The Fellowship started on 1st March, 2013 and, following an extension, finished on 31st July 2014. In addition to Sheila Riddell, the team included David Raffe, Linda Croxford, Sarah Minty, Elisabet Weedon and Susan Whittaker. Full details are available at: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/he-in-scotland/
A number of knowledge exchange events were organised, including the following:

- Think Tank 1: The future funding of higher education in Scotland, the UK and internationally (22nd May, 2013)
- Seminar: Educational attainment and inequality in Scotland: how does Scotland compare with the rest (with Gill Wyness, London School of Economics)
- Think Tank 2: Widening access to higher education in Scotland and the UK (8th October, 2013)
- Seminar 3: The Future of Scottish Higher Education (29th January 2014)
- Our Future: What do young people think about Scottish higher education and independence? (11th June 2014)
- Dissemination Event Reporting findings from the ESRC project (24th June 2014)

Within the project, there was a particular focus on working with 16-17 year olds in schools and colleges to help them engage with the debate. We produced teaching materials and a short film on the topic of Scottish higher education in the context of devolution (the film can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Alc1XzblgpE). Teaching materials were distributed to schools in January 2014 and published on our website.

All members of the project team were deeply saddened and shocked by David Raffe’s death in February 2015. David made a major contribution to the study of sociology of education in Scotland, the UK and Europe. Our forthcoming book on higher education and devolution, to which he was a contributor, is dedicated to his memory.

3. Improving young people’s knowledge of student finance in Scotland

Building upon the ESRC Research Fellowship project, Sarah Minty was awarded an ESRC Impact Grant entitled Improving young people’s knowledge of student finance in Scotland. This project started on 1st October, 2014 and is due to finish on 31st October, 2015.

Earlier research has shown that senior school students (particularly those from less affluent backgrounds) are confused about HE funding and need clearer information. In response to this, a partnership project has been developed in collaboration with NUS Scotland, SAAS, LEAPS and Gateway Shared Services. This knowledge exchange project aims to develop a practical information guide on student finance to assist senior pupils and their parents in making post-school decisions and debunk myths around student finance.

Sarah is collaborating with S6 pupils and first year undergraduate students to inform the development of the guide, focusing particularly on pupils in schools with low rates of HE progression where knowledge and understanding tends to be worse. All of the work on the project will be disseminated through the project website and further information can be found at: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/esrc-improving-yp-knowledge

Sarah Minty is also undertaking a research study commissioned by the Widening Participation team in Student Recruitment and Admissions at the University of Edinburgh. This study run from January to May 2015. It is investigating the reasons for the differences in the type and class of degree attained by widening participation (WP) indicated students and aims to uncover the reasons for the differences in outcomes across subject areas. The research takes the form of focus groups with 1st and 3rd year undergraduate students from five subjects to investigate the reasons WP indicated students in some subject areas
are less likely to progress to an Honours degree and to gain a 1st or 2:1 class of degree than other students, and from this to identify the factors that contribute to successful outcomes and provide the basis for the development of strategies to address the issue.
**The Team**

**Professor Sheila Riddell: Director of CREID**
Professor Sheila Riddell has worked at the University of Edinburgh since October 2003 and was previously Director of the Strathclyde Centre for Disability Research at the University of Glasgow. Sheila’s research interests include education policy, additional support needs, lifelong learning, equality and human rights.

**Dr Elisabet Weedon: Senior Research Fellow/ Deputy Director of CREID**
Dr Elisabet Weedon has a particular interest in lifelong learning, additional support needs and has played a key role in our European comparative study researching lifelong learning in Europe. Elisabet has also worked on projects on religious education in Scotland including the project investigating Muslim pupils’ experiences and outcomes in education in Scotland and England. She is currently working on the Leverhulme network project and Higher Education and the devolution settlement. Elisabet previously worked with the Open University and at Perth College mainly on UHI Millenium Institute developments.

**Dr Gillean McCluskey: Deputy Director of CREID/ Head of Institute for Education, Community & Society (ECS)/ Senior Lecturer**
Dr Gillean McCluskey researches and teaches in the areas of school discipline, exclusion and disaffection, restorative practices and conflict resolution in schools. She has worked in mainstream schools and alternative settings with young people in trouble and at risk, and is interested in the achievements and experiences of marginalised groups in education.

**Dr Mariela Fordyce: Research Fellow**
Dr Mariela Fordyce has completed her undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the field of Special Needs Education, and has had the opportunity to work with children and young people with a variety of disabilities. Her main research interests are deaf literacy, deaf bilingualism, language assessment, as well as educational outcomes and transitions to adulthood of young people with disabilities. Mariela joined CREID in June 2012 to coordinate a project on the post-school transitions of young people with hearing impairment.
The Team

Sarah Minty: Research Fellow
Sarah Minty is involved in a number of projects within the centre relating to higher education and social justice. She recently completed work on the ESRC project ‘Higher Education in Scotland, the Devolution Settlement and the Referendum on Independence.’ During her ten years in educational research, Sarah has worked on numerous projects in Scotland and England and her work has covered a range of educational settings, including schools, vocational education, higher education, and supplementary schools. She has particular interests in HE and schools policy evaluation - exploring the implementation and impact of government policies and initiatives on young people and other stakeholders.

Dr Ellen Boeren: Chancellor's Fellow
Dr Ellen Boeren received a PhD in Educational Sciences from Leuven University (Belgium) in May 2011. Her thesis explored participation and motivation of adult learners in formal education. She worked on data gathered within the European Sixth Framework project ‘LLL2010: towards a lifelong learning society in Europe: the contribution of the education system’ and on data from the Eurostat Adult Education Survey. Together with Professor John Holford she won a BERA Meeting of Minds fellowship. She is now a Chancellor’s Fellow at Moray House School of Education. Ellen contributed to the literature review on widening access in higher education, a small grant awarded from Universities Scotland and received small grants from the Carnegie Trust and the Data without Boundaries project of the European Commission. Apart from conducting research, she also teaches Research Methods for Master’s students at Moray House. http://www.ellenboeren.co.uk

Lyn Tett: Emeritus Professor of Community Education and Lifelong Learning
Professor Lyn Tett has been developing her work on adult literacy and learning identity and gave presentations on this at the ECER conference in 2014 as well as publishing a paper. In 2015 she will be working with Professor Viv Cree (PI) and Dr Hazel Christie on following up a longitudinal study that began in 2004, exploring the experiences of 45 students who had entered the College of Humanities and Social Science with an HNC or HND qualification from Further Education Colleges. This research will enable the tracking of the progress that this group of students made from their initial entry to the university to their experiences in their first careers.

Dr Jane Brown: Senior Research Fellow
Dr Jane Brown originally worked in residential care with troubled children and subsequently trained as an art therapist specialising in child protection. She began her career as a researcher at the Centre for the Study of the Child and Society at the University of Glasgow. A member of staff at Moray House School of Education for the past 13 years, she has published widely in the fields of citizenship education and violent behaviour in childhood.
The Team

Dr Charles Weedon: Honorary Fellow
Dr Charles Weedon worked in schools as a teacher of English and Maths before becoming involved in Support for Learning. His masters and doctoral degrees both focused on literacy in learning. He has a particular interest in specific learning difficulties and current ambiguities in perceptions of dyslexia. He has published a range of assessment approaches, as well as contributing to a national working group, to books on learning difficulties and to teacher CPD.

Dr Grace Chung-yan Kong: Academic Coordinator
Dr Grace Kong’s first degree was in Translation and Interpretation, followed later by an MA in Translation Studies. She has recently obtained her PhD in Translation Studies at the University of Edinburgh. Grace joined CREID in 2005 and previously tutored at the Open University of Hong Kong and worked for the Information Services Department of the Hong Kong Government. Grace is currently employed as a research assistant and academic coordinator in CREID. Her research, which is part of the ESRC Higher Education project includes examining the experiences and perceptions of Chinese students studying at Scottish universities.
Projects

European Commission’s Network of Experts on Social Aspects of Education and Training
Professor Sheila Riddell, led by Professor Sally Power, University of Cardiff

Special Education and Policy Change: A Study of Six Jurisdictions
Professor Sheila Riddell (Principal Investigator), Dr. Elisabet Weedon and Dr. Grace Kong (University of Edinburgh, UK); Professor Scot Danforth (San Diego State University, USA); Dr. Linda Graham (Queensland University of Technology, Queensland, Australia); Dr. Eva Hjörne (University of Gothenburg, Sweden); Professor Sip Jan Pijl (University of Groningen, The Netherlands); Roger Slee (University of Victoria, Australia); March 2012-September 2014
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/sp-educ-n-policy-change

PhD: Improving Understanding of the Experiences of Gypsy-Travellers in Scotland
Dr Charles Anderson and Dr Gillean McCluskey; September 2012-September 2015
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/gypsy-travellers-phd

Higher Education in Scotland, the Devolution Settlement and the Referendum on Independence
Professor Sheila Riddell, Professor David Raffe, Dr. Linda Croxford, Sarah Minty and Dr. Elisabet Weedon; March 2013-July 2014
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/he-in-scotland

Keeping Youth Away from Crime: Searching for Best European Practices
Professor Sheila Riddell, Professor Kay Tisdall and Dr. Gillean McCluskey; April 2013-April 2015
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/youth-away-from-crime

Improving young people’s knowledge of student finance in Scotland
Sarah Minty, October 2014-October 2015
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/esrc-improving-yp-knowledge

Attracting diversity: identifying underrepresented groups
Elisabet Weedon, November 2014-July 2015
URL: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/esrc-improving-yp-knowledge
Projects

From PhD to academic career (FUNDER: Carnegie Trust Scotland)
Ellen Boeren, July – December 2014

Data without Boundaries – DwB (FUNDER: European Commission FP7) with National Statistical Office Netherlands
Ellen Boeren, January-December 2014

Translating your PhD chapters into journal articles (Funder: Lithuanian Research Council)
Ellen Boeren, May 2014

Pupils as Citizens: pupils views on school citizenship and the transition from primary to secondary school (Funder: The Gordon Cook Foundation)
Dr. Jane Brown & Dr. Hamish Ross; August 2014-August 2016
Events

Higher Education in Scotland, the Devolution Settlement and the Referendum on Independence Seminar Series

Seminar 3: The Future of Scottish Higher Education
Wednesday 29th January 2014, National Museum of Scotland

Our Future: What do young people think about Scottish higher education and independence?
Wednesday 11th June 2014, University of Edinburgh

Dissemination Event: Reporting findings from the ESRC project
Tuesday 24th June 2014, University of Edinburgh

SERA Conference 2014
19th-21st November 2014, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh
Events

Meetings of and events related to the Leverhulme Network

Fourth meeting
5th-7th February 2014, San Diego State University, USA

ECER 2014 Symposium
1st-5th September 2014, University of Porto, Portugal

Post-school transitions of young people with additional support needs:
Developing a new research agenda
Wednesday 20th August 2014, University of Edinburgh

Restorative Practices in School - are we nearly there yet?
Friday 3rd October 2014, University of Edinburgh


Brown, J., & Ross, H. *Responsible citizens or confident bundles of enthusiasm? Scottish teachers’ views about participation across school transitions.* Presentation to the Values of Childhood and Childhood Studies Conference. University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, 7-9th May 2014.


Fordyce, M. *Striving for inclusion: deaf young people’s transitions from school to work.* Presentation to the seminar ‘Post-school transitions of young people with additional support needs: Developing a new research agenda’, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, 20th August 2014.


McCluskey, G. *Restorative Approaches: resolving conflict, increasing participation.* Keynote address to conference, Restorative Approaches on Campus, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, 14th November 2014.


McCluskey, G. *Managing exclusions.* Keynote address to *Preventing and Managing Exclusions Conference*, Edinburgh, 17th June 2014.


Minty, S. *Introduction to the research with young people* and *Young people’s views on votes at 16.* Presentations to the seminar ‘Our Future: What do young people think about Scottish higher education and independence?’ University of Edinburgh, 11th June 2014.


Riddell, S. *Migration, mobility and higher education.* Presentation to ESRC/UKRO Seminar: Scottish Referendum: Implications for the EU, Stanhope Hotel, Brussels, 11th February 2014.


Riddell, S. *Intersections of social class and disability.* Presentation to the conference Disability Through the Lifecourse, Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin, 16th September 2014.
Presentations


Riddell, S. *Young people’s attitudes towards debt and tuition fees*. Presentation to the seminar Our Future: What do young people think about Scottish higher education and independence? University of Edinburgh, 11th June 2014.


Weedon, E., & Riddell, S. *Undergraduate tuition fees in Scotland, the UK and internationally: who should pay, who pays what and when?* Presentation to the symposium ‘Higher Education in Scotland and the UK: Beyond the Referendum’ at SERA Conference 2014, University of Edinburgh, 19th November 2014.

Whittaker, S. *Home or away?* Presentation to the seminar ‘Our Future: What do young people think about Scottish higher education and independence?’ University of Edinburgh, 11th June 2014.
Refereed journal articles


McCluskey, G (2014). ‘Youth is present only when its presence is a problem’: voices of young people on discipline in school. Children & Society, 28(2), 93-103. DOI: 10.1111/j.1099-0860.2012.00450.x


### Chapters in books


### Commissioned reports


### Other publication


Press coverage

3rd July 2014
THE. David Matthews. Scots fear losing access to UK research council system.

27th June 2014
TESS. Julia Horton. Want to help pupils at risk of exclusion? Do less.

25th June 2014

The Times. Linsay McIntosh. SNP’s fees policy illegal ‘after yes vote’ / SNP’s tuition fees policy ’could not continue after yes vote.’

Daily Express. Tuition fee threat.

Metro. Jane Cassidy. No fees for UK students if there's Yes vote, says study.

The Scotsman. Scott MacNab. Scottish independence: Tuition fees warning / Scotland “will have to stop charging UK student fees.

Evening Times. Warning over tuition fees.


24th June 2014
Courier. Experts in tuition fees warning.

The Guardian. Severin Carrell. Scottish universities won't be swamped by English students, says study.


BBC Two. (Interview with Sheila Riddell) Scotland 2014.

The Herald Scotland. University experts: Scotland could not charge rUK students tuition fees if it becomes independent.

The Herald Scotland. Andrew Denholm. Universities ‘feel threatened’.

The Herald Scotland. Mary Senior. Letters.

12th June 2014
THE. David Matthews. What might independence mean for Scotland’s universities?

9th May 2014
The Evening Telegraph. Deaf pupils ‘missing out’ warns campaigner.

7th May 2014
Fife Today. Fiona Dobie. We want same opportunities says deaf Markinch teen.

1st May 2014
The Huffington Post UK. Isobel Cockerell. Welsh Students Get The Most Financial Support For Tuition Fees In The UK.
Press coverage

29th April 2014
The Guardian. Anna Bawden and Abby Young-Powell. Welsh university students get most financial support in UK.

The Guardian. Severin Carrell. Free tuition in Scotland benefits wealthiest students the most.

The Herald Scotland. Stephen Naysmith. INSIDE TRACK: We must address attainment gap of deaf children.

25th April 2014


28th March 2014
TESS. Julia Belgutay. Scottish ministers do the Highland mud-sling over UK split.

16th March 2014
BBC News. Scottish independence: MPs claim Yes vote would damage education.

STV. ‘Substantial and damaging’ impact on higher education if Yes vote.

14th March 2014
TESS. Young deaf people are not being heard.

TESS. Henry Hepburn. Striving to be heard in a world without sound.

20th February 2014
Research Fortnight. Laura Greenhalgh. Scotland eyes Brussels elections.

6th February 2014
THE. David Matthews. Scottish ministers do the Highland mud-sling over UK split.

1st February 2014
The Observer. Daniel Boffey. Alistair Carmichael: ‘Nationalists say Scotland and England have different values. That’s not true’.

30th January 2014


29th January 2014

The Evening Telegraph. Ministers debate education policies.

The Herald Scotland. Magnus Gardham. Russell in attack over ‘nasty’ UK policies on immigrants.

Press coverage

17th January 2014
TESS. Julia Belgutay. Citizenship – Is independence debate too hot to handle in class?