
Issue 11 - Summer Edition 2020

From the editor

Welcome to this bumper edition of the Journal and a big thank you to all the contributors for managing to share their work despite all the challenges we have been facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dara Ryder, AHEAD's CEO shares his immediate challenges with us and in this edition, you will find a wide range of articles related to disability, inclusion and further and higher education. Congratulations to Jennifer Lynch on receiving the John Kelly Award, not only has she received her stylish award but she has also found time to share her innovative work with us all.

I am particularly pleased to bring you two pieces about the inclusion of learners with intellectual disabilities in higher education from Mary-Ann O'Donovan in Ireland and Katrien Hermans and Elke Emmers in Flanders, Belgium.

Approaching group work can be worrying for students with Autism and Sharron Sturgess explores support in working with peers. Many of the articles in this Journal include research with students on their experiences and this really moves the agenda forward. Of course COVID is well represented and I hope you will find you are not alone with the challenges it has brought us, moving conferences, changing teaching methods and supporting Deaf students online.

Employment opportunities and improving national policies on student mobility also give us hope that we will be working together whatever our new 'normal'.

We will be tweeting about the Journal, do join us on twitter with your views and experiences #AHEADJournal.

Stay well, enjoy the summer staycation!

Barbara Waters

Editor



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Journal Editor, AHEAD

Barbara Waters is the Project Lead on the Reasonable Accommodations, Professional Placements (RAPP) Project, Barbara was Chief Executive of Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities, UK. 1996- 2010. Barbara represented Skill nationally on policy issues in education and disability related to post 16 education, training and employment. Since 2010 Barbara has worked as a researcher on further and higher education and disability. She was part of the LINK European network concerned with disabled students in higher education and has undertaken research on competence standards and learning outcomes in higher education for the Equality Challenge Unit, UK, published in 2015, looking particularly at Nursing, Teaching, Foreign Languages and STEM subjects. She was the evaluator of the Erasmus + programme on Universal Design for Learning completed in October 2016, and rapporteur for AHEAD Ireland in the MappED access programme with the Erasmus Student Network in 2017. Currently, she is the editor of the peer to peer Journal for AHEAD Ireland. She has an MA in Business and Public Sector Strategy and received an honorary doctorate from the Open University, UK.

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