Action Research Planner for Computer Applications for Education 2001

I experience a concern when some of my educational values are denied in practice.

Reflecting on my learning during the modules, I recognised that I did not openly share my values with participants. I believe that I should involve participants from the start in co-creating the curriculum with me. Participants often leave assignment writing until the end of the module and do not make use of the time to reflect on their learning as they develop multimedia and web based artefacts. Most of the participants are teachers and it is important that they are aware of the new emerging theories of learning. There is a body of work being constructed by from different practice contexts that could be shared through a website.

I imagine a solution

Build a website to host the variety of artefacts being developed by participants on the programme. In this way participants can build on the work developed by previous participants on the programme. The artefacts will be supported by accompanying text describing and explaining participant learning as they work to improve their students learning. I will continue to use online learning technology and to include more opportunity for teacher online collaboration and dialogue. Rowland (2000, p. 100) believes that the very process of writing can provide a way of "exploring and articulating emotions and values with a view to bringing our practice and teaching

into closer alignment with our values." I intend to build an action research process into the module. This would enable participants to carry out research into their own educational practice. In carrying out practice-based research I will encourage them to consider the data they need to collect in order to show how they could use the technology to improve student learning.

I act in the direction of the solution

Invite participants during the first session of *Computer Applications in Education* module (2001) to articulate their goals for the module. I will videotape this session in order to come to a closer understanding of the values that are emerging from my own practice as I work with participants.

I evaluate the outcomes of my actions.

The multimedia and web based curriculum artefacts on the newly designed website provide evidence of the work that is being developed by participants. The supporting text will document their ongoing learning and development

I modify my problems, ideas and actions in the light of my evaluations.

I would like to use online learning technology in a more dialogic rather than content based fashion i.e. delivery mechanism of course notes. I need to provide opportunities for participants to learn and respond to each other through use of online learning technology.