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**INAUGURAL BERA/SAGE RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE
AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore (September 8, 2007) – The first winners of new research awards for educational researchers and practitioners were announced today at the British Educational Research Association (BERA) Annual Conference, taking place at the Institute of Education, University of London. The Inaugural BERA/SAGE *Research into Practice Awards* celebrate the work of practitioners who have demonstrated excellence in the application of research in practice.

The awards were presented during the Practitioner Day Conference, a day where practitioner researchers can debate, discuss and celebrate their research. Nominations were received for two categories: one from a schools/early years or social care setting, and a 16+ setting. Winners were presented with prize money of £500, plus a selection of SAGE books.

First prize for the Schools, early years and social care settings category was presented to Lindsey Winterton for 'Working in Partnership With Parents'. A Highly Commended was also awarded to Christine Bruce for 'A Journey Towards an Emotionally Literate School: supporting the development of skills in Emotional Literacy'.

Receiving her prize, Lindsey said "It's an honour to win the BERA/SAGE award, and it's a thrilling feeling. Although the examiners on my PhD, who originally encouraged me to submit my entry, were really complimentary on my research, winning this really validates the quality of my work. This has definitely encouraged me to now publish my research."

First prize for the 16+ settings category was presented to Frances Tracey, Katy Jordan and Keith Johnstone for 'Using Research evidence to Influence change in Teaching Practices at the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge'. Highly Commended was awarded to Shelley Fielding and Susan Kilminster for 'Learning Together: Research based approaches in inter-professional education at the University of Leeds'.

Katy Jordan, speaking on behalf of the team at the Department of Plant Sciences, commented "Our submission described how we have used an action cycle including practitioner co-interpretation of research findings to enhance the outcomes of small group teaching in the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Cambridge. We are delighted to have won this award which will help to raise the profile of our work."

Professor Anne Campbell of Leeds Metropolitan University, Chair of judges for the awards, added "The submissions for the BERA/SAGE award were all of a high quality indicating a healthy field of practice based research. We would like to thank all of those who submitted their work. The practitioners who won the prizes have demonstrated considerable expertise in their areas of research. The Panel and members of BERA wish them well in their future research."

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The British Educational Research Association (BERA) is committed to promoting high quality research and to its use in understanding and improving education. BERA, as the learned society in the field of educational research in the UK:

- seeks to promote quality in educational research;
- seeks to ensure that educational research is undertaken in concordance with the Association's Ethical Guidelines;
- promotes independent debate about the quality, purpose and methodologies of educational research;
- provides a forum for dissemination and debate of the findings of educational research;
- supports the mediation of research findings for policy makers and practitioners;
- represents educational researchers to government, funding bodies and the public;
- provides training and development for educational researchers at all levels;
- aims to work with employers and others to improve the conditions of work and rights of educational researchers; and relates to other associations nationally and internationally which have interests and concerns in educational research.

The BERA Annual Conference took place from 5th - 8th September 2007 at the Institute of Education, University of London. <http://www.beraconference.co.uk/index.html>