

Thu 06/10/2022 07:33

Dear colleagues,

An early distribution today as I am on the road visiting our previous Field Centre at Kindrogan in the Scottish Highlands.

10 Year Plan

I was also able to visit FSC Millport this week to deliver the first of the presentations of our 10 year plan. I explained to my audience that they were the first to be exposed to the presentation and that criticism on the 'opening night' would be welcomed and incorporated into the presentation. The collective view was that we were pitching it about right so you should all expect an SLT member to be appearing at your location soon. The presentations will be supported by much more detailed information on the intranet as well as by short videos delivered by SLT members explaining what it means for their particular area of responsibility.

IIP Survey

Last week I was interviewed by the IIP assessor and I know that many of you have also been interviewed. Thank you to those that have been interviewed for participating, and for your frank responses and suggestions to the assessor. We participate in this external audit process to challenge ourselves to do better in how we invest in you, our people. I think I was the last person to be interviewed so we should be receiving his report in the next few weeks. We will look at it closely, learn from it and of course share it, and our responses to it with you, probably in November.

Supporting Mental Health and Well Being

Mental Health and Wellbeing has rightfully been front and centre of many people's thoughts, especially over the last few years. Sam Thurston and Janine Maddison (former FSC staff) recently collaborated on an article titled 'Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of learners during residential fieldwork' which has been published in the autumn edition of the Teaching Geography journal. Field Studies Council has a subscription to the Teaching Geography journal, so you're all welcome to read it (attached p.106) when you have a moment. There's lots of other interesting things in there, including Cli-fi which are Climate Fiction stories that help students (and teachers) start thinking!

Thank you

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Ella Rath and Tom Stamp for taking on additional responsibility and covering for absent Centre Managers at MT and RC in addition to managing their own Centres. I would also like to thank the staff at both Centres for their flexibility and willingness to adapt and indeed embrace the changes they encountered. This flexibility enabled the Centres to continue to operate and deliver a service for our customers, well done and thank you.

Welcome to FSC this week

I would like to welcome two new tutors who started on Monday, Rebekka Berger at Millport and Louise Staker at Flatford

Stay safe and keep well

Mark