

## ***e-learning e-xcitement in e-ducation!***

The Teacher Training Agency (TTA) has recently invited the Faculty of Education to help establish the e-learning framework to which all ITE providers will work.

The invitation came because the TTA became aware of the work of colleagues across the Faculty and CCCUC support services to initiate and push forward the Faculty's E-Learning project which has three key focus points:

- developing knowledge, understanding and practice in learning and teaching through the use of a variety of learning technologies and linking this to strategic planning across the Faculty;
- maintaining and enhancing the learning technologies infrastructure;
- pushing at the boundaries of what we know, understand and do in relation to teaching and learning technologies, both at Christ Church and in the wider university environment, in order to inform and push forward the work in the previous two areas.

The collaborative approach to all this has involved working with Heads of Department/Centre, their representatives on the e-learning committee, and staff across the Faculty, along with key staff from the LTEU, Computing Services, CLIENT and the Library.

The hardware infrastructure has had some unexpected TTA funding to upgrade provision of virtual learning environments for staff and students. In addition, given the increasing amount of work taking place off campus, a remote and mobile working pilot group of around 40 staff with laptops has been established, working with Computing Services, to enable staff to access University College systems and information whilst "on the road".

Research is taking place through, for example, an evaluation of Tablet PCs with staff and students, the use of interactive whiteboards and related software and the presentation of papers and symposia at academic conferences.

Meanwhile, everything learned through the project will be made available to everyone at Christ Church and thanks must go to those members of staff involved who have worked (and are working!) so hard. The next two years will be even more interesting!