

# Marden Professional Development Program: Enhancing Social Competence for Supporting Effective Learning in Schools

*Presented by the Department of Educational Psychology  
Counselling and Learning Needs*



## Enhancing social competence of learners by using learning mentors

Speaker: Professor Richard Rose

Adult role models are important in the lives of most young people, but for some whom either through disaffection or difficulties with relationships these may be difficult to establish or maintain. In the UK the use of learning mentors has become a feature of many schools. However, the definition of this role remains somewhat vague and at times leads to difficulties of interpretation for both professional colleagues and students alike. This seminar reports research conducted in both primary and secondary schools, which focused upon the developing role of learning mentors and their impact upon student attitudes, behaviour and attainment. Drawing upon data from interviews and documentary analysis it is suggested that the role of the mentor requires specific skills and should be distinctly different from that of other adults who work with young people. This session presents examples from learning mentor schemes and discusses where these have been successful in supporting students deemed to be at risk of failure or exclusion.

**Richard Rose** is Professor of Special and Inclusive Education and Director of the Centre for Special Needs Education and Research at the University of Northampton. He has published widely on aspects of inclusive education and research in a range of academic journals. His books include *Strategies to Promote Inclusive Practice* (with Christina Tilstone), *Doing Research in Special Education* (with Ian Grosvenor) and *Encouraging Voices: Respecting the Insights of Young People who have been Marginalised* (with Michael Shevlin). Richard Rose is Marden Fellow at the Hong Kong Institute of Education.

<p><b>Date:</b> Tuesday 27 May  <b>Time:</b> 16:30-18:00  <b>Venue:</b> D3-LP-07                  Hong Kong Institute of Education</p>
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Reservations and enquiries: To register, please contact Fiona Lam via email ([fional@ied.edu.hk](mailto:fional@ied.edu.hk)) with details of participant's name and organization. For further information, please visit our web site (<http://www2.ied.edu.hk/fpece/fics/>)

### 2008 Marden Program:

27 May (Tue) 16:30-18:00	Richard Rose – <i>Enhancing social competence of learners by using learning mentors</i>	10 June (Tue) 16:30-18:00	Anita Mak – <i>Enhancing social competence through teacher and counselor training</i>
23 September (Tue) 16:30-18:00	Claire Egan – <i>Enhancing social competence of learners with ASD</i>	28 October (Tue) 16:30-18:00	Shane Phillipson – <i>Enhancing social competence of high ability learners</i>