1. **Christmas celebration**

Many thanks to all the doctoral students who prepared such a magnificent feast on the 13th December. The incredible range of dishes really reflected our multicultural community here in EDU and surpassed all previous efforts!

2. **A new year and a new CARE website!**

The New Year marks the launch of our redesigned website. We are particularly pleased that the new design makes it easier to access CARE archive material which can be used for teaching and research purposes. CARE members have also contributed new individual profiles highlighting their connection with the Centre’s values and purpose. Thanks to Claire Zamorski, Cerian Hutchings and Dawn Corby for all their work to get it to this stage.

3. **World Association for Lesson Studies honours John Elliott**

The President and Council of the World Association for Lesson Studies has honoured John Elliott with Life Membership of the Association. The citation recognises John’s ‘invaluable and definitive contribution in being a founding member and the second President of WALS’. The association also acknowledges his ‘vision in starting IJLLS and ensuring its sustainability and quality as Lead Editor over the course of the years’.

4. **Society for Research in Higher Education scoping award**

Anna Robinson-Pant and Anna Magyar have been successful in their application to the SRHE for a small grant for a scoping study on ‘The role of recruitment agents in the internationalisation of Higher Education’. The aim is to carry out preliminary investigation into the role of agencies in recruiting international students. Ethical concerns have been raised about agents’ increasing influence on UK universities. However, little attention has been given to the implications of recruitment agents’ role for HE internationalisation, particularly in relation to teaching and learning and the student experience. The project sets out to facilitate a critical perspective on the role of agents through a review of related literature and will develop a theoretical framework (drawing on intercultural communication and academic literacies research) for investigating how agents mediate texts produced by the student
and by the UK university. Initial mapping of educational recruitment agencies will be conducted through their websites in order to develop a typology for future research.

5. **Teaching Fellowship projects**

*Service User involvement in pre-registration learning:* this will conclude in January. Kathleen Lane has analysed and compiled results from interviews and focus groups with FMH students; views of staff and Service Users are now being finalised in order to incorporate all our results. We hope to draw up a model of good practice of Service User involvement which will be made available to the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

*Culturally-sensitive Research Methods:* Yann Lebeau, Rebecca Westrup and Kathleen Lane are drawing together analyses from a survey to MA students and from interviews with EDU-based and staff from other countries. They will hold a seminar in the new year on their findings.

6. **Proposed CARE Ethics Symposium**

A CARE sub-group (Jackie, Anna, Kathleen) is considering the focus for a one-day Research Ethics event to be held later in 2014. Initial ideas are to explore the views and assumptions on ethics held across educational providers and institutions (*e.g.* schools, NGOs, media), the sharing of good practice and how different organisations engage with ethical issues. If you are interested in joining the group who are planning and organising this event, please contact Kathleen ([Kathleen.Lane@uea.ac.uk](mailto:Kathleen.Lane@uea.ac.uk)). We would welcome a doctoral student representative on the organising team. On 10 January, Kathleen will attend a seminar at the British Library – *Finding Common Ground? Research ethics across the Social Sciences* – which will be relevant for scoping our own workshop, as well as for developing EDU Research Ethics policy and practice.

7. **Follow-up to Spirituality Event**

Along with Jackie (lead), Teresa and other UEA colleagues, Kathleen is submitting a proposal to Palgrave to publish from our successful Spirituality CPD event held on 23 July last summer. We are also planning two further workshops in June 2014. Contact [Jacqueline.Watson@uea.ac.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.Watson@uea.ac.uk) for further information.

8. **New Vision for Education**

The ‘Curriculum and Assessment’ group of the New Vision for Education Think-Tank has produced a critique of the UK government’s Assessment Reform proposals. As Chair of the group, John Elliott has co-ordinated the production of a pithy critique entitled ‘How to build failure into the national assessment of pupils’. In the new year, it will appear on the NVG web-site and be used as a basis for discussions with members of the policy community. Copies are available on request from John.

9. **Invitation to a free public seminar at the University of East London**

Spyros Themelis will be presenting at a seminar convened by Tony Green and Alpesh Maisuria at the University of East London: Wednesday January 22nd 2014, 10–4pm University of East London, Stratford Campus CASS School of Education, ED2.04

Featuring:

**Stephen Ball,** *Philanthropy, Education Policy and Democratic Deficit*

**Tristan McCowan,** *Alternative universities in Latin America: is radical higher education possible within the mainstream system?*

**Nick Grant,** *Michael Gove: Doing The Right Thing: Is Michael Gove mad or bad?*

**Spyros Themelis,** *Between neo-fascism and poverty: education and hope in Greece in times of debtocracy*

The seminar is free and open to all but places are limited. Contact Veronica Burton: [v.a.burton@uel.ac.uk](mailto:v.a.burton@uel.ac.uk)
10. Recent and forthcoming publications by CARE members


Nick Gee has had an article entitled "Creating a temporary community? An ethnographic study of a residential fieldtrip" published in the *Journal of Adventure Education & Outdoor Learning*. This paper explores the evolving perceptions of community sentiments for teachers and ‘A’ level students participating in residential Geography fieldwork.

Patrick Yarker is currently editing the Spring 2014 issue of FORUM: for promoting 3-19 comprehensive education. It is sub-titled 'Adventures in Education' and will carry pieces by, among others, Mary Jane Drummond (on pioneer Early Years educators in the USA), Jeni Smith, Rachel Marks, Deb Wilenski and Mike Cole, along with material from the USA and Syria. It is due to be published by early March.

Craig Avieson and Penny Lamb recently had an article accepted in the Association for Physical Education’s professional journal (AfPE), the UK’s recognised professional body for Physical Education, aimed at practitioners within schools and universities. The article entitled ‘Preparing trainee teachers for teaching swimming: an innovative model of delivery’ is due to be published in Spring 2014 and builds upon a recent national study by the Amateur Swimming Association in which it was highlighted that 51% of children leaving primary school, cannot swim unaided over a distance of 25 metres. The article reports on the findings from an innovative pilot study involving UEA’s secondary PGCE Physical Education trainees, which focused on bridging the KS2 and KS3 subject knowledge of trainee teachers.


Karim Sadeghi, former CARE doctoral student now based at Urmia University in Iran, has set up a new journal: Iranian Journal of Language Teaching Research (IJLTR). He writes: ‘It is with great pleasure that I am announcing the publication of January 2014 Issue of IJLTR. In 2013, IJLTR published its first 3 issues (two regular and one special) and its first issue for 2014 in now online, as of 1st January 2014, at [http://www.urmia.ac.ir/ijltr/pages/current-issue.aspx](http://www.urmia.ac.ir/ijltr/pages/current-issue.aspx). The Issue features articles by both Iranians and foreign scholars on various current issues on L2 education including research on Chinese and Japanese as a Foreign Language, Test Development and Validation, Critical Thinking, Time-Management and Anxiety in Testing as well as Discourse Structure of Research Articles. As a regular feature of the Journal, there are also 2 book reviews on SLA and Research Methods. The Issue starts with an important editorial on Plagiarism with contributions by Jim Coleman (Editor-in-Chief of System) and Rod Ellis (Editor of Language Teaching Research).’ Anna Robinson-Pant is on the international advisory board.
11. More news from CARE members

In December, **Terry Haydn** attended an INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON HISTORICAL CULTURE AND HISTORY EDUCATION, sponsored by the Spanish Ministry of Education, and coordinated by the Autonomous University of Madrid. The seminar and forthcoming International handbook aims at stimulating interdisciplinary dialogue about historical knowledge and its consumption by society.

**Kathleen Lane** co-authored and co-presented a poster at the UK Stroke Forum Conference in Harrogate, 3-5 December: “Barriers, enablers, practices and outputs of involvement: stroke survivors with aphasia as collaborators in a clinical trial”.

Kathleen’s stroke study, SCIP-R (Supported Communication to Improve Participation in Rehabilitation), received a two-month, no-cost extension from the Research for Patient Benefit programme (its NHS funding stream) until March 2014. SCIP-R is investigating the impact of a communication intervention to support patients during their hospital rehabilitation who have moderate to severe aphasia after a stroke. Patient recruitment to the trial finished in October. Kathleen conducted focus groups with ward-based staff in late autumn to gather feedback on the intervention supporting aphasic patients during rehabilitation. Final stages of data analysis are on-going.

**John Elliott** was invited to be a KEY INFORMANT for the paper on ‘Teachers’ Engagement in and with Research’ to the BERA-RSA Inquiry into Teacher Education and Educational Research. His reply can be read on the CARE website.

**Spyros Themelis** was commissioned to write the following report which will be published on the UNESCO website on 29th January to coincide with the launch of the 2013/14 Global Monitoring Report: S. Themelis and B. Foster (2014) ‘Education for Roma: the potential of curriculum-based innovation to improve learning outcomes’.

**Anna Robinson-Pant** returned to Cairo and Addis Ababa in December for the Unesco/IFAD final workshops on ‘Learning knowledge and skills for agriculture and rural livelihoods’. She has been working with the research teams from Ain Shams University (Cairo) and the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (Addis Ababa) on their draft reports. Anna is now developing a synthesis report drawing on the findings from Ethiopia, Egypt and Cambodia, to present at the Unesco/IFAD global seminar in Paris in February.