

Biography for Sean Cavan

1110 Cromley Alley
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Expertise: Organisational development and self-evaluation for the Education sector, development and delivery of Masters programmes for Education and other professionals.

Sean has over 24 years of experience in creating and delivering professional development programmes in the fields of Education, Business and ICT, in both the public and private sectors. He is currently Faculty Head of Continuing Professional Development at Sheffield Hallam University in the UK. In this role he specialises in building innovative leadership and organisational development programmes and providing consultancy for the education sector.

Sean holds an Honours Degree in Computer Studies and a Masters Degree in Management information Systems. A passionate believer in the principles and practice of life-long learning, he has recently completed 3 years training within the Tavistock Clinic's Masters programme in the application of psychoanalytic approaches to understanding organisations. He has also worked as an Associate Consultant to the Tavistock Group Relations Conference on authority, risk and creativity in individuals, groups and organisations.

Sean serves on a number of national and regional bodies. He is a member of the UK Training and Development Agency's advisory body on professional development in schools and of the General Teaching Council's management group for their new national professional recognition framework, the Teacher Learning Academy, in which Sheffield Hallam University plays a leading role. He also serves on the Professional Development and Accreditation Committees of the UK Universities Council for the Education of Teachers.

He is closely involved with a range of partners, for example the National College for School Leadership, the Sheffield Children's Services Directorate, and the US-based Ameri-I-Can programme, in creating innovative methods for the academic accreditation of learning achieved by professionals in their workplace and/or through training programmes. A past-chair of the British Quality Council's Education and Training Group, Sean also works with a wide range of schools and Education Authorities in the application of organisational self-evaluation strategies to school improvement. He has been a member of the teaching faculty of Learning Tree International Inc., delivering ICT



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management courses in the UK, US, Canada, Sweden and Italy to a diverse set of clients ranging from Italian banking sector to NASA.

In his university role, Sean has developed 8 major Masters programmes in the ICT, Business Administration and Educational Leadership sectors, delivered in Europe, the Gulf and Hong Kong. He has also led a number of successful bids for both public and private sector funding for action research and professional development programmes ranging from £82k to £1.7m. Recent examples include action research into the application of quality management models to school self-evaluation and creating leadership programmes for schools and Integrated Children's Centres. Sean has led workshops and presentations on these activities at conferences in the UK, Holland and Germany.