



## ...Press Release...Press Release...

10<sup>th</sup> May 2004

### **ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE WORKPLACE BASIC SKILLS NETWORK**

The Workplace Basic Skills Network at Lancaster University has recorded another first by being chosen by the Learning and Skills Council Greater Manchester (LSCGM) as the organiser of its prestigious Basic Skills Learner Awards 2004.

The ceremony – to be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, as part of Adult Learner's Week – will make up a range of awards to post-16 learners in the curriculum areas of literacy, language and numeracy. Gordon Burns, the anchor for BBC's "North West Tonight", will present the awards.

"We are very pleased to be involved in this important event," said Sue Batt, Regional Development Officer for the Workplace Basic Skills Network. "With more than 10 years' experience in basic skills, we are able to draw on the vast knowledge of our staff and members in organising an event like this."

Over the past few weeks, tutors and providers in the Greater Manchester area have nominated those students who have made particular progress in overcoming obstacles in literacy, numeracy and language on programmes funded by the LSCGM. The awards will recognise the difference people have made to their lives through learning and through their commitment to overcome barriers to acquiring new skills.

The eight categories are further education, adult and community education, work-based learning, learndirect, workplace, work within prisons, the voluntary sector and trade unions.

The Workplace Basic Skills Network has assembled an independent adjudication panel which will select three award winners – one each for literacy, numeracy and language - from each of the eight category areas.

Each winner will receive £50 worth of book tokens towards furthering their learning. All nominees will receive a certificate in recognition of their nomination, and providers who nominate award winners will be considered for the good practice award.

Ends

**Note to editors:**

The Workplace Basic Skills Network, based at Lancaster University, is a national membership organisation dedicated to workplace language, literacy and numeracy provision. Founded in 1993, it supports "Skills for Life", the government's adult literacy and numeracy strategy. The Network builds professional capacity in workplace basic skills through sharing and dissemination of good practice and continuing professional development, supporting basic skills professionals to meet the language, literacy and numeracy needs of today's changing workplace. Address: Workplace Basic Skills Network, CSET, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YL; tel: 01524 593405; website: [www.lancaster.ac.uk/wbsnet](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/wbsnet)

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