

## Notes of Secondary Phase Committee Meeting 7 June 2008

### **Congratulations to Alan and Louise!**

The committee was pleased to hear that two SPC members Alan Parkinson and Louise Ellis had both deservedly received [this years RGS award for Excellence in Geography Teaching](#). In addition, Alan has also recently been appointed to the full time role of Curriculum Development Leader and is set to help guide the second phase of the Action Plan for Geography.

### **KS3 CfBT support update**

The committee was also provided with an update on the proposed CfBT sponsored support for current changes to Key Stage Three. Now the first wave of national conferences draws to a close, the intention is to develop, extend and support local networks of teachers to provide the more personalised support that was not possible within the restrictions of the national conferences. In an effort to anticipate what teachers of geography grappling with these changes will need most, some of the support offered will focus around helping departments meet the requirements for GIS and out of class learning. The SPC were able to offer their suggestions on what shape this support could take.

### **Working with the AEWG**

Some of the meeting involved a successful joint meeting with the [Assessment and Examinations Working Group](#). Both working groups were conscious that during this current period of curriculum change there will be an increasing number of issues arising that will overlap between these two GA committees. With this in mind both committees are pleased to announce a forthcoming article in Teaching Geography which summarises the key features of the new KS4 specifications offered by awarding bodies which is co-authored by Emma Johns of the SPC and Phil Wood, chair of the AEWG. Members of both committees are currently working to produce additional resources that will support GA members through this period of curriculum change.

### **2009 Manchester Conference**

The committee was able to invite Margaret Roberts to the meeting who outlined the key theme of this years GA conference – Investigating Geography. Plans are already underway for the three workshops the SPC are intending to offer at the 2009 conference in Manchester – we look forward to seeing you there!