



LIFEWIDE EDUCATION & CREATIVE ACADEMIC ANNUAL REPORT August 2019

Mission & Activities

'Lifewide Education' was established in August 2011 and registered in the UK as a Community Interest Company - a not for profit, voluntary and community-based, social-educational enterprise). Our purpose is to advocate, encourage and support a lifewide approach to learning, personal development and education and to support and sustain a community of interest formed around these educational ideas.

We support a community of interested practitioners and act as a HUB for the production and curation of resources that are of value and relevance to educational practitioners and institutions. Our focus is primarily higher education but we are interested in connecting to and learning from all phases or levels of education and life in the wider world. We value 'openness' and most of our resources are published under a creative commons licence. Membership is free and open to anyone who shares our interests and values.

Activities are focused on:

- 1 Production, publication, curation and dissemination of information relevant to lifewide learning, education and personal development
- 2 Research and scholarship related to these ideas
- 3 Support for professional development eg by contributing to the CPD programmes and events of educational and other professionals
- 4 Organising and contributing to events
- 5 Advocacy - championing and encouraging a lifewide view of learning, personal development and education.

'Creative Academic' is a separate but related enterprise within Lifewide Education. It was founded in January 2015 for the purpose of championing creativity in all its manifestations in higher education in the UK and the wider world. Our ambition is to create, support and sustain a strong network and vibrant community of people who are interested in their own creativity and committed to enabling students' creative development.

Activities involve exploration and research for better understandings and for improved practices, in particular we explore:

- @ Creativity as a concept and perceptions and narratives of creativity in different contexts
- @ The creativity of teachers and other professionals involved in students' development
- @ The creativity of students and how their creative development is encouraged and facilitated by teachers and other professionals who contribute to their learning and development
- @ The creativity of universities - the ways in which institutions encourage, support and recognise the creativity and creative development of students and staff.

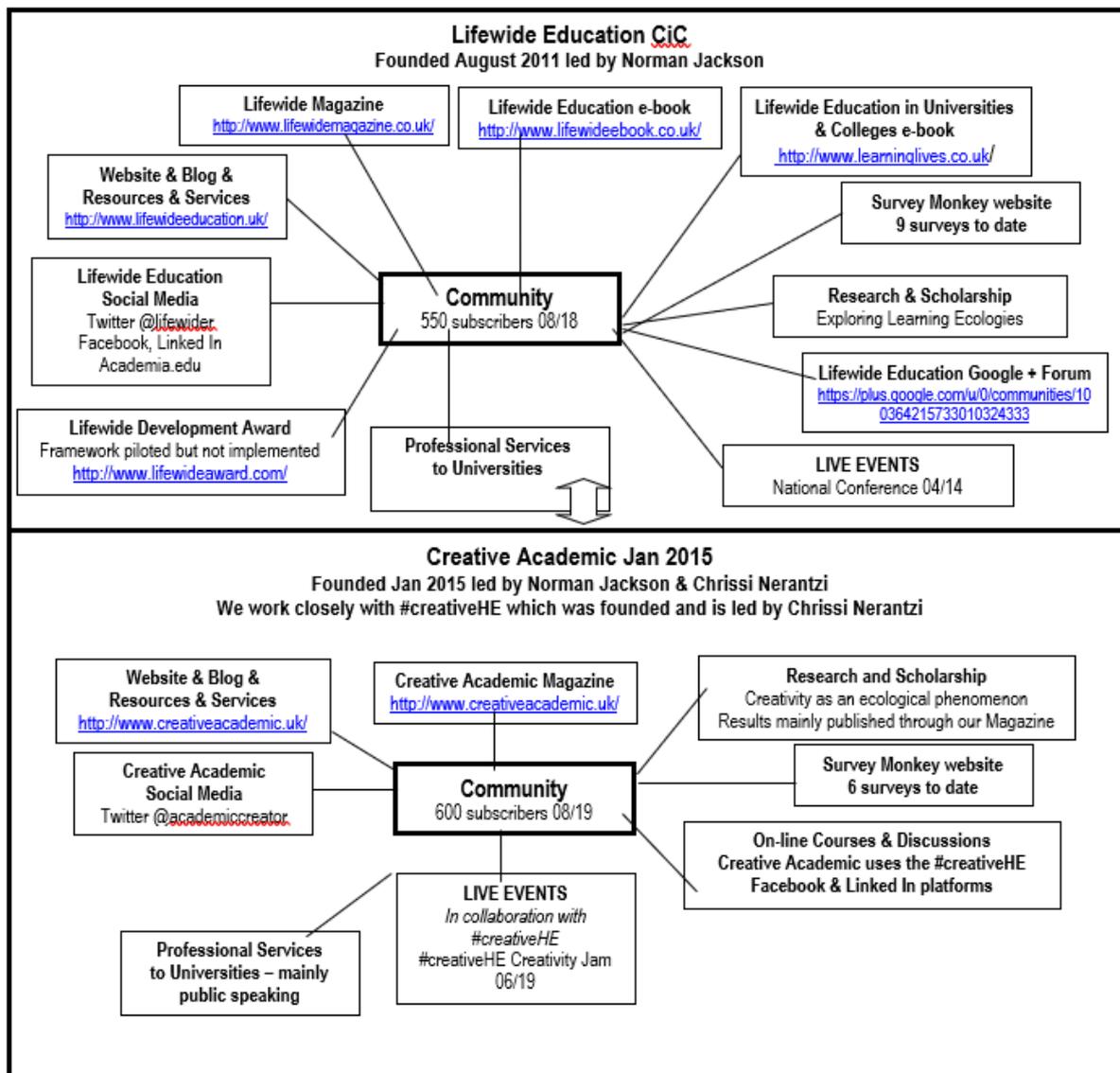
Activities include:

- @ Research, scholarship, publication and dissemination of information relating to creativity and creativity in learning & education
- @ Support for professional development by a) contributing to CPD programmes of education and other professionals b) leading and facilitating on-line conversations via the facebook open forum 3) publishing magazines that encourage the sharing of educational practices
- @ Organising and contributing to events

Leadership and Organisation

Lifewide Education is led by the Founder, Professor Norman Jackson and Creative Academic by its two Co-Founders, Norman Jackson and Chrissi Nerantzi. There are enormous synergies and overlapping interests, connections and activities between the two organisations. Both organisations are dependent on a group of volunteers who contribute as and when they can (see team photo). An organisation & infrastructure chart is shown in Figure 1. Both organisations are supported financially by Chalk Mountain Education and Media Services which is also owned by its Founder Norman Jackson.

Figure 1 Organisation & infrastructure for the Lifewide Education and Creative Academic Educational Social Enterprises



Income & Accounts

We are an open learning network and membership of the community is free. Income is from donations by the founder or his company Chalk Mountain Education of Media Services derived from public speaking and consultancy activities undertaken on behalf of Lifewide Education and Creative Academic. Neither the Director or members of the team receive any salary, dividends or other remuneration for the time and contributions they make. Expenses incurred through services to the organisation and community are

reimbursed against receipts and invoices. A single set of accounts combining the work of Lifewide Education & Creative Academic are audited by an independent accountant each year and an annual report of activities and accounts is made to Companies House.

Activities/Events: Lifewide Education August 2018 - August 2019

- 1 **Ongoing support (see below) for our community of interest.** There are 580 registered members in our Mail Chimp mail list. People can join and leave the mail list at any time.
- 2 **Maintaining an on-line presence through a community website** <http://www.lifewideeducation.uk/> and a blog
- 3 **Maintaining a presence on the twitter @lifewider** social networking platform 350 followers. Twitter has proved useful in finding people to contribute to our magazine and also in promotional activities relating to our magazine, blogs and surveys.
- 4 **In April 2019 the Google+ platform ceased to exist. We now turn to facebook to provide our community forum.** <https://www.facebook.com/LifewideEducation/>
- 5 **Lifewide Magazine.** <http://www.lifewidemagazine.co.uk/>. Each issue explores a theme that is relevant to Lifewide Education. A total of 22 Issues have been published up to August 2019. Two issues were published between August 18-19. LWM 21 explores the idea of Life Stories and Narratives while LWM 22 was dedicated to the memory of Professor Michael Eraut whose research did much to illuminate how people learn and develop themselves in professional work environments. Our Magazine webpage has received a total of 18,836 page downloads (21/08/19)
- 6 **Research and scholarship** Much of our research is geared to the production of our magazine. The main effort has been to continue developing the idea of learning ecologies. Two members of the Lifewide Education team (Norman Jackson and Ron Barnett) are co-editing a book '*Ecologies for Learning and Practice Emerging Ideas, Sightings and Possibilities*' The book will be published by Routledge in November 2019.
- 7 **Lifewide Learning, Education and Personal Development e-book** (2531 page loads to date). The book has now been transferred to the Lifewide Education website.
- 8 '**Lifewide Learning and Education in Universities and Colleges**', e-book published in March 2014 has received nearly 2341 page loads to date. The conference website we created to host the resources has received over 4338 page loads <http://www.learninglives.co.uk/> The book has now been transferred to the Lifewide Education website.
- 9 **Maintaining the guidance and infrastructure to support the Lifewide Development Award.** <http://www.lifewideaward.com/> 1279 page loads to date
- 10 In August the Director was invited to participate in Harvard's Learning Innovations Laboratory (LILA) inquiry into Learning Ecologies starting in October 2019.
- 11 In August Dr Jenny Willis resigned from her post as Executive Editor of Lifewide Magazine & Creative Magazine a post she has held since the magazine began in 2012.



Activities: Creative Academic August 2018 - August 2019

The main activities undertaken during this period were:

- Ongoing support (see below) for our community of interest.** There are 575 subscribers (19/08/18) on our Mail Chimp mail list. People can join and leave the mail list at any time. Our aim is to be an international HUB for creative thinking, research and resources. The majority of subscribers are from the UK but our membership includes representatives from: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Ireland, Korea, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Peru, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, and the USA.
- Maintaining the website and blog** <http://www.creativeacademic.uk/> The website has been continually updated. The home page has been downloaded over **10,000** times.
- Maintaining a presence on the twitter @academiccreator** twitter platform. We currently have 695 followers (almost doubling in one year) and have produced 660 tweets. Twitter has proved useful in finding people to contribute to our magazine and also in the promotion of activities relating to our magazine, blogs and surveys.
- Support online community forums.** In April 2019 Google+ closed its platform meaning that we had to abandon our three successful Google creativity forums. In January we helped establish with Chrissi Nerantzi, a new community forum on facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/creativeHE/> By July 2019 there were 222 subscribers to the forum (compared to 880 on the well established Google + platform). During the year we hosted and facilitated one courses (led by Sandra Sinfield) and two discursive events



January 2019	Creativity Course	
15 th -21 st April 2019 World	Creativity and Innovation Week Towards a Manifesto for Imagination and Creativity in HE	Assets curated in Creative Academic Magazine CAM13
11 th - 19 th May 2019	Lets Get Creative Festival	Assets curated in Creative Academic Magazine CAM14

We are conscious that some people do not participate on facebook so we also established a Creative Academic Linked-In Group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8755256/>. In July 2019 the group had 88 subscribers.

5 Publication of Creative Academic Magazine Each issue explores a theme that is relevant to Creativity in Education. A total of 17 Issues have been published up to August 2019. We published 4 issues in the current year.

- CAM 12 September 2018 Creativity in the Making Edited by Norman Jackson and Jenny Willis
- CAM 9D February 2019 Creativity in Practice: Accomplished Musicians Edited by Norman Jackson
- CAM 13A & B April 2019 Steps to a Manifesto for Imagination & Creativity in HE Edited by Norman Jackson and Jenny Willis
- CAM 14 August 2019 Lets Get Creative Edited by Jenny Willis produced by Neda Tomlinson

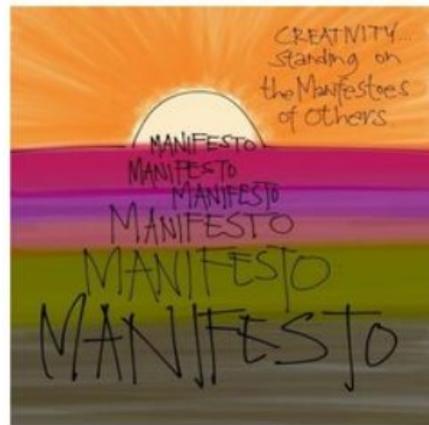
7 Contributions to World Creativity & Innovation Week April 15-21 2017 <http://wciw.org/>

WCIW encourages people to use their creativity to make the world a better and more interesting place and to make their own place in the world better and more interesting. Creative Academic participated in this global event in 2019 by hosting an open conversation on the #creativeHE facebook forum aimed at developing a manifesto to advance thinking about imagination and creativity in learning and

educational practices in higher education. Much of the discussion and the background papers to inform discussion are published in issue #13 A & B of Creative Academic Magazine together with a number of personal manifestos produced by participants.

The outcomes of our discussion are captured in our manifesto. Crafted by Paul Kleiman, it synthesises and transforms the ideas and perspectives expressed into an uplifting and poetic statement of beliefs and intentions. The manifesto is a public declaration of beliefs, a provocation and a call to action. It can be accessed at:

<http://www.creativeacademic.uk/manifesto.html>



Steps to a Manifesto for
Imagination & Creativity
in Higher Education

Commissioning Editor: Norman Jackson

Executive Editor: Jenny Willis

creative academic magazine

Issue Number 13A 2019

8 Contribution to BBC Get Creative Week In May Creative Academic hosted a Lets Get Creative Festival on the #creativeHE facebook platform. The results of the conversation are curated in Creative Academic Magazine CAM 14.

9 NJ presented at the UK Creativity Researchers conference at the University of Central Lancashire

10 #creativeHE Conference - In June, Creative Academic contributed to the conference organised by Chrissi Nerantzi at Manchester Metropolitan University which was attended by 60 people. Norman Jackson provided the keynote presentation and Paul Kleiman facilitated discussion.



CELT.MMU.AC.UK

CELT MMU Festival of Learning and Teaching June 2019 | CELT . Manchester Metropolitan University

Welcome to the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at MMU

11 New alliance - in 2018 we began working with THE CENTRE FOR IMAGINATION IN RESEARCH, CULTURE & EDUCATION (CIRCE) an international organization dedicated to imagination in all its varied forms. While we have deep roots, interest, and involvement in the field of education, leadership, architecture, business, interior design, the visual arts, marketing, and theatre. It's mission is to 'grow engaged minds: imagining and making better worlds'. CIRCE is led by Dr Gillian Judson who is an active member of Creative Academic. Professor Norman Jackson is a member of CIRCE's international board of advisors.

<http://www.circesu.ca/>



Goals for 2019-20 Consolidate, Sustain, Engage, Explore, Develop, Innovate & Grow

Lifewide Education -Sustain and build on what we are already doing including:

- Continue to grow our membership and build alliances
- Publish 2 issues of Lifewide Magazine
- Complete Learning Ecologies Book Project with Professor Ron Barnett
- Maintain the website & blog

- Maintain our presence on social media (Facebook, Linked in, Twitter, Academia.edu other)
- Promote LWE through conferences in the UK and overseas
- Contribute to the CPD activities of teachers and universities
- Contribute to the LILA inquiry into Learning Ecologies
- Research & Development priorities - Continue our exploration of learning ecologies

Creative Academic - Sustain and build on what we are already doing including:

- Continue to grow our membership and build alliances
- Publish at least 2 issues of Creative Academic Magazine each exploring a new theme
- Begin preparing a book on the theme of Creativity in Higher Education
- Encourage/facilitate discussion and enquiry through surveys using our Survey Monkey website
- Maintain our presence through social media (Facebook, Linked in, Academic.edu, Twitter, other)
- Promote Creative Academic through conferences in the UK and overseas
- Contribute to the CPD activities of teachers in universities
- Research & Development priorities - Continue exploration of creativity in practice
- Contribute to World Creativity and Innovation Week April 2020

Appreciation of Team Members

The Director would like to sincerely thank all the members of the core team who have generously given their time, creativity and expertise to support our Lifewide Education and Creative Academic educational enterprises. Without you these enterprises would not be able to exist. Particular thanks to - Dr Jenny Willis, Dr Chrissi Nerantzi, Maria Kefalogianni, Russ Law, Professor Ron Barnett, Professor Paul Kleiman, Dr Gillian Judson, Sandra Sinfield, Teryl Cartwright, Kiboko Hachyon and Neda Tomlinson.

Norman Jackson,
Founder Lifewide Education CIC & Co-Founder Creative Academic
August 2019