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Leadership, Preparation and Development (LPD) RIG Annual Report, May 2019

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This Research Interest Group (RIG) grew out of rounds of British Educational Leadership, Management & Administration Society (BELMAS)-funded small-scale research projects, a number of which were reported in BELMAS journals. Members of the group are interested in what the implications are for Leadership, Preparation and Development (LPD) of the structural changes to system leadership (in particular), how these can be researched and what research tells us about the implications. Specific areas of interest include:

- an analysis of leadership preparation and development from the micro-, meso-, macro- and international levels;
- School-to-School Support (S2SS), Systems Leadership more generally, and the roles of Specialist and National Leaders of Education (SLEs and NLEs; Local Leaders – LLEs – are no longer to be designated from 2018 onwards);
- types of leaders and leadership that emerge, and the motivations that drive these, and types of support preparation that they require through system change, such as National Professional Qualification for Executive Leaders (NPQEL);
- monitoring the ongoing changes in NPQs; the rise of the Chartered College LPD qualifications such as the CTeach qualification;
- the demise of NCTL, and the creation of TNLF and its research arm;
- the changes to school improvement funding rounds, conditions and scale, and where appropriate, the ongoing Opportunity Area (OA) funding developments.

The RIG meets twice a year. The most common format is an invited speaker and/or presentations by RIG members on their own research. Meetings in previous years have taken place focusing on leadership development changes and role of SLE deployment, S2SS and so on, and the

history of all our meetings to date is on the LPD RIG page: <http://www.belmas.org.uk/Rig-LD/Latest>

The two meetings for 2018–2019 academic year are:

- 8 November 2018: Systems Leadership: where are we up to with structural change development impacting on system leadership capacity, held at the University of Derby. This was a set of five divergent presentations from current system leaders and a talk from Rob Higham on the Greany & Higham August 2018 Report.
- 27 June 2019: UK/US textbook Book Launch at Sheffield Hallam University, with contributions from five of the authors of the book that has come out of some of the RIG contributions and wider BELMAS contributions by Val Storey, Pauline Stonehouse, Phil Mason and others.

The immediate focus of the group's work is on the June event, and then we will turn our thoughts to what next for the RIG. Over the next year, it is hoped that this RIG will continue to explore further issues at the UK level that came out in the recent textbook, in line with our macro and international research dimensions, as well as our ongoing S2SS support work at the micro- and meso levels. We are aware of our overlap with other RIGs and the influence of their work on ours, especially the Structural Reform Group, Governing and Governance and Critical Education and Policy Studies (CEPaLs), and continue to be very happy to work with them as appropriate.

Declaration of Conflicting Interests

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

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