

Please let us know by 22 August if you're interested in contributing to a special themed edition of e-O&P

The future of coaching and mentoring: evolution, revolution or extinction?

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How might coaching and mentoring develop in the coming decades?

Please share your questions, predictions and hopes in this important conversation

AMED and the Coaching & Mentoring Network (CMN) have teamed up for this special edition of AMED's quarterly online journal [e-Organisations and People \(e-O&P\)](#). Together, we are creating a forum to facilitate a broad and eclectic conversation about the coaching and mentoring landscape and how it might look in the future. We are inviting diverse contributions in a variety of formats. Whether you consider yourself a 'thought-leader', a practitioner, an academic or a hybrid of these, whether you are previously published or unpublished, we're keen to hear from you. There are many ways to become involved in this unusual publishing project.

We'd particularly like to hear from people who are doing interesting, challenging and disruptive things in this field and who are ready to bring their ideas to a wider audience.

Focus

Since the 1990s, the nature of both coaching and mentoring have been much debated. Some have sought to converge definitions and practices; others to diverge. The debate continues. Consensus is elusive yet the use of coaching and mentoring as descriptive terms for a diverse range of development services has continued to grow and evolve. This prompts a number of questions, including:

Might coaching and mentoring be absorbed within a blend of development processes? What role will non-clinical supervision have? What new language and disciplines might come to the fore by, say, 2029? What impact will diversity and multiculturalism have? What influence will economic factors and changing business practices have? These and many other questions arise.

How you can contribute

We want to include a wide range of perspectives and experiences, and you can contribute in a variety of creative and unusual ways. For example, you can:

- Write an article in fairly typical format (perhaps 1500 - 3000 words), illustrating in-depth and real-world experiences, particularly those that represent and give voice to a wider group of practitioners. Case studies and commentary on practical developments are very welcome here.
- Post lively views and opinions on the AMED website ([blog/Discussion Forum](#)), saying whatever you like about the subject (as long as it's legal and not libellous!). We will search the posts for extracts to include in a commentary in the journal.
- Offer quick soundbites via twitter #AMEDCMN or, for a few more words, the blog/Discussion Forum we've created [here](#) (maximum 150 words), or email them direct to us.



- Provide short videos (3 or 4 minutes maximum), illustrating your views on coaching or mentoring, sharing case studies or clips from events or presentations. Links to sites like YouTube or Vimeo are perfectly acceptable.
- Comment on and share hyperlinks to published web content or resources you think are relevant and interesting
- If writing isn't your thing, send in your original songs, poems, images, sketches, paintings or drawings, inspired by or inspiring a particular theme or idea.
- Participate in **a post-publication event (provisionally in March 2015, at Oxford Brookes University)**, which will develop further our discussions. You'll have every opportunity to contribute towards shaping the nature of this event, and to participate in evolving this conversation.
- If all else fails, answers on a postcard!

Please note that we do not publish articles that are overtly self-promotional or advertorial, and we will need reassurance that copyright hasn't been breached.

What to do now

If you're interested in contributing in any of the ways we've outlined here (or indeed in other ways) please tell us if you'd like to be involved **by 22 August**, with just a couple of sentences about your provisional ideas and why you think they might be of interest to others. You'll find our contact details below. We will then get in touch to discuss options and possibilities. You can also start to contribute your thoughts and ideas immediately in the [Discussion Forum or blog](#) or tweet using #AMEDCMN

What support can you expect?

If you have ideas, we can help you to shape them into publishable content. The e-O&P Editorial Board and the Guest Editors of this edition will support you in developing your contribution in any way we can to co-create a vibrant, exciting and unusual publication. Resources we may be able to offer include 'critical friends' to help you with informal writing support, a form of editorial coaching or mentoring if appropriate, access to the AMED Writers' Group, and generally a friendly, understanding and supportive presence.

How this special edition has come about

Recently Oxford Brookes University's Coaching and Mentoring Society (OBCAMS) hosted a special retrospective gathering to celebrate the work of the Coaching and Mentoring Network (CMN) over the last 15 years, and to initiate a conversation about what the future might hold.

The whole process has re-kindled long standing relationships including those between AMED and CMN, which began around 15 years ago. It reminded us that we were both formed with a similar ethos of connecting communities to share and collaborate whilst also having distinctive yet complementary identities and aspirations. This retrospective sparked a discussion about future possibilities for coaching and mentoring, and also presented AMED and the CMN with an opportunity to collaborate once again.

We are all excited about the explorations and collaborations that will emerge through this special edition, and we invite you most warmly to help shape this conversation.

We look forward to hearing from you by 22 August – sooner if possible, please!

Best wishes

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Guest Editors, Winter 2014 e-O&P

Please copy both of us into all email correspondence

