

## Editorial

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The second annual conference of the British Education Studies Association (BESA) was held at Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln, June 30 to July 1, 2006. The conference itself was a resounding success, attracting over 90 delegates from all corners of the country. About 50 papers were presented over the one and a half conference days and these ranged in content from theoretical perspectives and developments in Education Studies to curriculum innovation and initiatives in teaching, learning and assessment. Outstanding keynotes were given by Professor Mike Bottery (University of Hull) on educational leadership in Hong Kong and Professor Peter Tymms (University of Durham) on whether or not standards really are rising in English primary schools. Both attracted full audiences and stimulated lively discussion.

In this volume, the first of the association's e-journal **Educationalutures**, eight conference papers are presented which reflect something of the association's eclectic interests. As the 'public' face of BESA, it is the intention of the editorial board that **Educationalutures** will grow and thrive and reach as wide an audience as it possibly can. We at BESA hope you enjoy reading what is presented here as much as we have enjoyed putting it together.