

Society for Educational Studies Annual Seminar:

## A History

The Society's Annual Seminar, 'Disciplinary, interdisciplinarity and educational studies: past, present and future', attracted delegates from all parts of the UK and continental Europe. Keynote speakers included Professor Gary McCulloch from the Institute of Education, University of London; Professor Rita Hofstetter from the University of Geneva and professor Helen Gunter from the University of Manchester. The afternoon panel discussion members were Professor Gert Biesta, Stirling University, Professor Gemma Moss, Institute of Education, University of London and Professor William Richardson, General Secretary of the Headmaster's and Headmistresses' Conference.

The Society for Educational Studies (SES) celebrated its 60th Anniversary at its Annual Seminar held in London on 16 November. The Society for Educational Studies began life as the Standing Conference on Studies in Education (SCSE) on Wednesday 19th December 1951, when former Director of the Institute of Education, University of London, Sir Fred Clarke chaired a conference of Professors of Education and Directors of Institutes of Education from across the United Kingdom in order to discuss what they believed to be the problems raised by the growth of educational research during the previous few decades.

For the past sixty years, the main aims of the Society have been to ensure the quality and status of research and scholarship in Educational Studies; encouraging debate and discussion especially on educational policy issues and to act as a public voice for Educational Studies especially in responding to critical attacks on the quality and integrity of the field.

The Society's chair, Professor Jon Davison, announced the award of five fellowships to Professors Thomas Bone, Paul Croll, Gerald Grace, Richard Pring and Denis Lawton for their outstanding contributions to the field of educational studies. The Society's annual book prize of £2,000 was awarded to *Children, their World, their Education* by Robin Alexander et al, published by Routledge.