## Academic and Pastoral Support at Edinburgh University

Daphne Loads
Institute for Academic Development



www.iad.ed.ac.uk





## A culture of carelessness? (Lynch, 2010)

- transgressive to talk about kindness in academia
- a denuded notion of the academic role with the caring stripped away: the resulting carelessness is harmful for us all
- far from being soft and fluffy, caring is often hard work and intellectually challenging
- need to break down the dualism between affect and rationality
- the idea of an impersonal university is profoundly irrational

(Clegg, 2010)



Kindness....

...cannot be regulated or prescribed

...is subversive

(Clegg and Rowland, 2010)



## Academic and Pastoral Support at University of Edinburgh

- variation
- reward
- enthusiastic and reflective
- spreading and strengthening support for the supporters

#### Academic and Pastoral Support

"Thank you" lunches

Spring series of workshops

Online café



#### "Thank you" lunches

- acknowledge and celebrate the work of Directors of Studies, Student Support Officers and others
- offer a student's eye view of what makes great academic and pastoral support
- provide information about support and development



## Finding your feet.....



- •New to the role of Director of Studies or Student Support Officer?
- •Would you like to hear inspiration and reassurance from more experienced colleagues?
- •Would you like to share your own experiences of offering academic and pastoral support to students?

Tuesday, 1st March, 10-12, IAD





### Can I just run this by you...?

- •Are you a Director of Studies or Student Support Officer?
- •Or do you contribute in other ways to the academic and pastoral support of students?
- •Would you like to find out what support is available for you and your students in the university?

Thursday, 10th March, 10-12. IAD



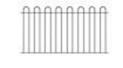
Book via MyEd

## Where do you draw the line?



- Are you a Director of Studies or Student Support Officer?
- •Do you offer academic or pastoral support to students?
- •Or do you contribute in other ways to the academic and pastoral support of students?
- •Would you like to hear how more experienced colleagues manage appropriate boundaries with their students?

Tuesday 12th April, 10-12, IAD



### Looking over the fence...

- Are you a Director of Studies or Student Support Officer?
   Or do you contribute in other ways to the academic and pastoral support of students?
- Would you like to hear how colleagues in other universities support their students?
- •Would you like to share your own experiences of offering support?

Wednesday, 20th April, 10-12, IAD

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### Study Wisdom



What does it mean to study wisely? How can we help students to build on their successes, learn from their mistakes and adapt to changing requirements?

How can we help them to experience the joys and satisfactions of studying as well as to weather the frustrations and uncertainties?

Would you like to help your students to study wisely?

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2-3.30, IAD

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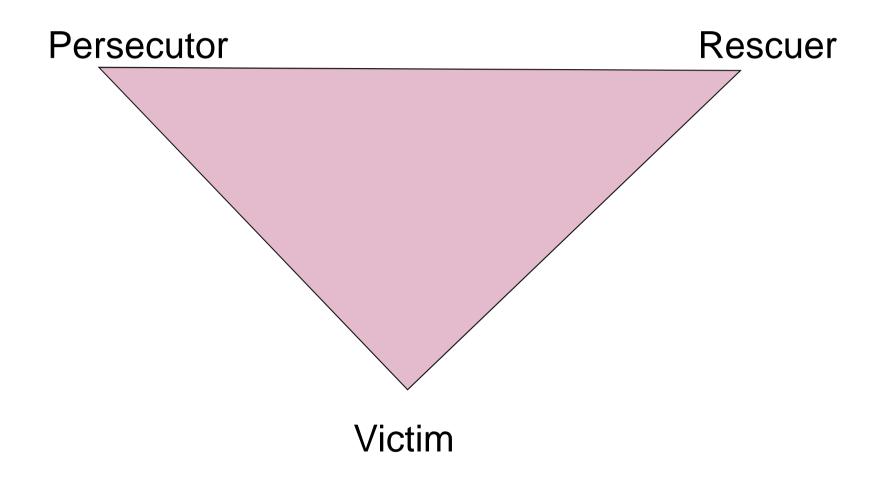
#### On-line



Sharing and spreading good ideas, information and support

www.iad.ed.ac.uk

#### **The Drama Triangle**



#### Jim-the Director of Studies



Why should I...?
In my day....

#### Lily-the student

It's not fair!

There's nothing I can do...











#### Margaret- the Director of Studies

Oh you poor thing. I'm here for you. Any time.



What you want is......

If I were you I'd ......

















#### Diane – the academic developer



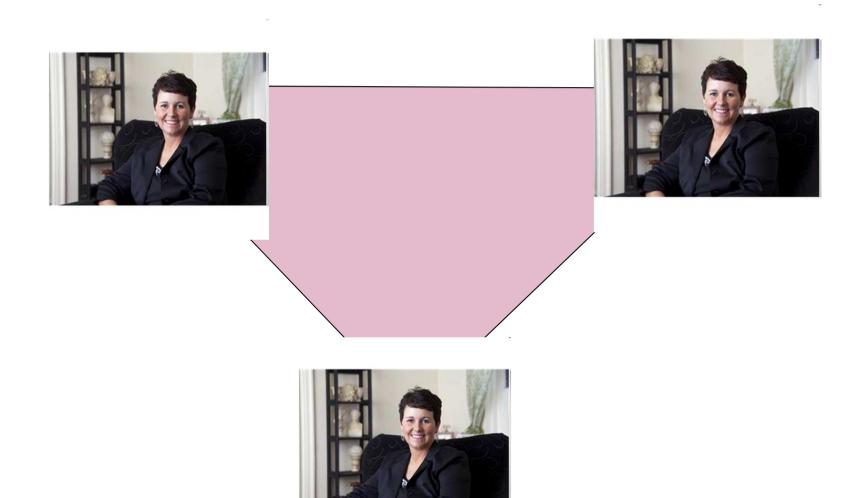
A lot of academics just don't have the skills or the temperament for this kind of work...

..but they're just going to have learn...

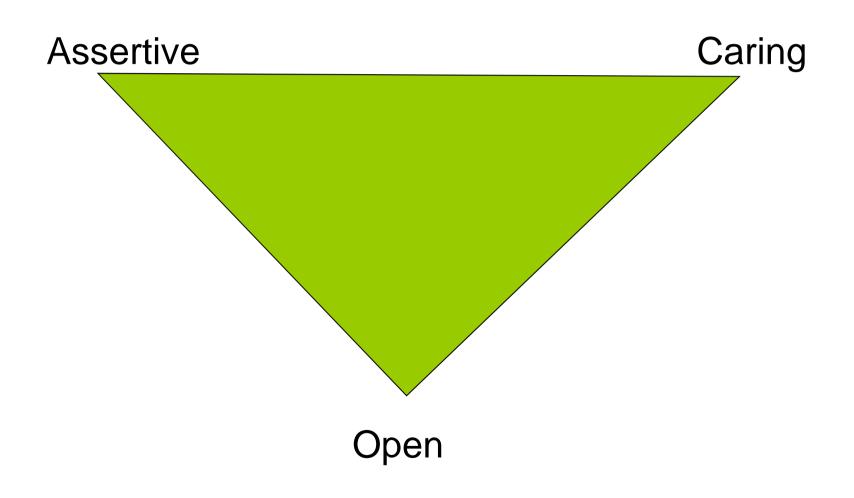
Of course I can't train them, that's a College or School role...

## What's going on?

## What's going on?



#### The Winners' Triangle



# In your own context: What can you do?

#### References

- Choy, A. (1990) The Winner's Triangle *Transactional Analysis Journal* **20**(1)pp40-46
- Clegg, S. (2010) *Academic Identities: Who Cares?* Keynote at the Academic Identities for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century conference, University of Strathclyde, June 2010
- Karpman, S. (1968) Fairy tales and script drama analysis Transactional Analysis Bulletin **7** (26) pp 39-43
- Lynch, K. (2010) Carelessness: a hidden doxa of higher education *Arts and Humanities in Higher Education* **9**(1) pp 54-67