



Upholding Yoga teacher training standards in UK

The British Wheel of Yoga (BWY) is the National Governing Body for Yoga in the UK and only British Wheel of Yoga teachers* are qualified to a National Occupational Standard. BWY is about to offer a special course that recognises teaching awards from other traditions.

Many yoga teacher training providers offer teaching awards that match or exceed the National Occupational Standard for teaching yoga in the UK, yet do not come under the umbrella of BWY accreditation; BWY is keen to embrace those talented teachers.

Currently, REPs; the Register of Exercise Professionals (an initiative founded by the Department of Health; www.reps-uk.org) is only able to accept British Wheel of Yoga Teachers. Leisure centres, fitness centres, Local Education Authorities and Local Health Authorities have been instructed by SkillsActive (Sector Skills Council for Active leisure and Learning; www.skillsactiveuk.com) to utilise REPs when employing yoga teachers. Many talented yoga teachers from traditions other than those currently accredited by BWY have already encountered the effects of REPs in their workplace.

As such, BWY wishes to reach out to those teachers with an 'Integration Course'. This course accepts awards from yoga teacher training traditions and provides a way for teachers to meet the National Occupational Standard for teaching yoga in the UK. If you would like further information on the ten week course (taken over one year) and due to start in London in September 2005, please write to Miki Marks and Gill Pendreich in the first instance at BWY, 25 Jermyn Street, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7RU.

*British Wheel of Yoga qualified teachers include teachers from BWY Accredited Organisations; Association of Yoga Studies (formerly Viniyoga Britain), Heart Yoga, Mandala Yoga Ashram and Satyananda UK and Eire.

Ends Emma Evans 4.10.04