

# PEP National Dialogical Conference 14 and 15 July 2015

## Outline

### 14 July 2015 Day 1- Overview and applicant and student findings

- 9.15-10.00 Arrival, registration and coffee
- 10.00-10.10 Welcome by Professor Julius Weinberg, VC of Kingston
- 10.10-10.20 Introduction to the conference - Michelle Morgan, Principal Investigator and Project Lead
- 10.20-10.50 The future of PG Study in the UK - Chris Millward, Director of Policy at HEFCE
- 10.50-11.10 Postgraduate Support Scheme 2014-15 and 2015-16 - Dr Brooke Storer-Chruch
- 11.10-11.40 Setting the Scene- The international context – Michelle Morgan and Manuel de Oliveira Duarte, Instituto de Telecomunicações, Portugal
- 11.40-12.30 Project headline findings - Michelle Morgan and Ines Direito (Lead Researcher)
- 12.30-13.00 Keynote - PGT Student Experience - Professor Mary Stuart, VC of Lincoln
- 1.00-1.45 Lunch and informal discussion
- 1.45-2.45 Applicant and student findings - Ines Direito (Lead Researcher) and Michelle Morgan
- 2.45-4.00 Workshops –discussion on future developments
- a) Fees and funding hosted by Juan Guerra, StudentFunder
  - b) Learning and Teaching hosted by Professor Sally Brown
  - c) Employability hosted by David Pollard and Dr Deborah Anderson
- 4.00-4.15 Refreshment break
- 4.15-4.45 Feedback on workshops by hosts
- 4.45-5.15 Examples of institutional good practice arising from the PEP  
Presentations by the institutional researchers and key links
- 5.15 Close
- 6.30-7.15 Pre-Conference drinks hosted by DVC Lesley-Jane Eales-Reynolds
- 7.15- 11.00 Conference dinner  
Speech by DVC David Mackintosh

## 15 July 2015 Day 2 - Business and industry findings

9.30-10.00	Keynote – Business and industry working with universities- David Pollard, Federation for Small Businesses
10.00-11.00	Business and industry headline findings- Michelle Morgan and Ines Direito (Lead Researcher)
11.00-12.15	Case studies of business/industry and university collaboration  a) The Lancaster University Data Science Business Partnership Programme -Chris Edwards, University of Lancaster  b) Enhancing Workforce Development: Balancing Career and Capability Requirements in the Engineering Sector-Wendy Fowles-Sweet, Catherine Hobbs, Paul Head, List Brodie, University of the West of England  c) Engaging employers and enterprise creation: A case study ( <i>Momentum</i> ) - Tim Maxfield, University of Worcester  d) An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a New Model of Employer Driven Postgraduate Provision in Engineering MSc Innovative Engineering Solutions- Angela Dean, University of Derby  e) Enhancing Employability in PGT: NTU's Multidisciplinary Master's Course - Dr Angela Vickerstaff, Nottingham Trent University
12.15-12.35	Keynote by Mike Lister on 'Business and Industry Moving forward'
12.35-12.55	Keynote by Professor Sally Brown on 'Academically Moving forward'  Questions from the floor
1.10-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.00	Workshops a) Developing curriculum for employment hosted by Professor Sally Brown b) Engaging employers hosted by Wendy Fowles-Sweet, UWE c) Future HE markets hosted by Mike Lister
3.00-3.30	Report back by hosts
3.30-3.50	Discussion on moving forward
3.50-4.00	Final remarks by Brooke Storer-Church, PSS Manager, HEFCE
4.00	Close

## **Case studies of business/industry and university collaboration descriptions**

### **The Lancaster University Data Science Business Partnership Programme- University of Lancaster**

At Lancaster University we have a history of building successful collaborations with industry. We applied for participation in PSS as we believed we could make use of this expertise to develop a new model for a PGT programme with company partnerships at its core. HM Government identified an ability to deal with the challenges of 'Big Data' as being vital for the UK's economy and called on universities to play a role in the provision of necessary skills. We developed Lancaster University's Data Science MSc Programme with a view to providing students with access to the most advanced methods and technologies in data analytics. Our vision for the programme was as a focused, but balanced learning experience that provides students with the ability to understand the techniques used to derive insight from diverse and complex data sources and also the technical environments required for intensive computation. Through maintaining a focus on the needs of industry throughout the design and delivery of our programme we have been able to launch a programme that has, in its first year, recruited 55 students and 30 companies, 18 of which are new to the University. We have also built partnerships with government agencies and charities and have been able to offer our students placements ranging from the use of analytics in cybersecurity to behavioural profiling in online gameplay. Our current partners include multinational technology companies, a leading provider of financial services, a Formula 1 racing team and a UN-affiliated organisation whose aim is to secure food security in West Africa. At present, 32 placement projects have been agreed with a total of £90,000 sponsorship to be paid to the students by the company hosts. Further sponsorship is anticipated as other projects are agreed.

*Chris Edwards*

*Associate Dean for Postgraduate Studies in the Faculty of Science and Technology.*

*The university of Lancaster*

### **Enhancing Workforce Development: Balancing Career and Capability Requirements in the Engineering Sector- University of West of England**

Based on the evidence of skills shortages in the Advanced Engineering sector, there is an urgent need for Universities to support both organisational capability development and individual career progression to professional recognition such as CEng: collectively termed as Workforce Development. The University of the West of England has developed a flexible Postgraduate Framework integrating employer / employee skills and competency development, based on the requirements of the Engineering Council's UK-SPEC competency matrix. This session will explain why and how this concept was developed, benefits to the sector, the individual and to UWE, as well as identifying some of the issues arising in the creation of such a Framework within a University environment – and what this has meant for the University as a whole.

*Wendy Sweet-Fowles*

*Catherine Hobbs*

*Paul Head*

*Lisa Brodie*

*University of West of England*

### **Engaging employers and enterprise creation: A case study (*Momentum*)-University of Worcester**

The *Momentum* project at the University of Worcester, involved the recruitment of 40 recent graduates and employees in employment, to a two-year, part-time Executive MBA programme, several of whom have participated in a 'Masters' internship' programme. The project launched in September 2014, and to date has gained a great deal of interest from sponsoring employers, local enterprise partnerships and others in representing a key contribution to the local economy. Central to the project has been the creation and support of 7 new enterprises established through the project, and housed in a new incubator facility at the University, as part of its commitment to employment creation and enterprise start-up. The session will examine achievements to date, and learning derived from the project, from both the student and employer perspective.

*Tim Maxfield*

*Director of Business Development*

*Worcester Business School*

### **An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a New Model of Employer Driven Postgraduate Provision in Engineering -MSc Innovative Engineering Solutions- University of Derby**

The aim of the new model of postgraduate provision was to help fill the skill gaps in engineering by developing problem solving expertise for graduates within the engineering sector. The programme was fully funded in academic year 2014/5 for 50 students over one year full time and included a six month paid work placement and research project with an employer. This focuses on developing expertise in solving technical problems important for the business. An integral part of the scheme is Mentoring Learners in the Workplace qualification which is offered free of charge to employers who take a placement student.

The feedback focuses on the student journey and the successes and challenges the team experienced in the validation and running of the programme over the academic year 2014/5. In particular it explores how the university- student- employer relationships developed throughout the programme. Some of the early lessons that can be drawn from implementing this new model for employer driven postgraduate provisions in the engineering sector will be disseminated at the meeting. Overall, it appears to be an emerging model of good practice.

*Angela Dean*

*Head of Department of Engineering*

*College of Engineering and Technology*

*University of Derby*

### **Enhancing Employability in PGT: NTU's Multidisciplinary Master's Course**

The Multidisciplinary Master's Course (MDM) aims to enhance student employability through the development of unique pathways of study which may better meet the needs of industry and students. The course enables students to select modules from across the 9 schools, developing a major and minor areas of study. Core MDM modules emphasise the development of transferable skills through a multidisciplinary consultancy project working on a life brief with a local client organisation. After this initial experience, students work to source a suitable work placement relating to their longer term career goals which forms part of their final work-based project module. This work-based learning opportunity enables them to enhance their practice and develop higher level transferable skills, as valued by employers. The flexibility of the course and multiple engagements with industry enhance the curriculum and allows students to develop their academic knowledge and the skills of professional practice in their chosen area.

*Dr Angela Vickerstaff*

*Multidisciplinary Master's Course Manager*

*Nottingham Trent University*