University of Huddersfield Repository

Brooks, Ruth

Students as Educators and Mentors: increasing awareness of the benefits and participation in sandwich placements

Original Citation


This version is available at http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/id/eprint/18200/

The University Repository is a digital collection of the research output of the University, available on Open Access. Copyright and Moral Rights for the items on this site are retained by the individual author and/or other copyright owners. Users may access full items free of charge; copies of full text items generally can be reproduced, displayed or performed and given to third parties in any format or medium for personal research or study, educational or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge, provided:

- The authors, title and full bibliographic details is credited in any copy;
- A hyperlink and/or URL is included for the original metadata page; and
- The content is not changed in any way.

For more information, including our policy and submission procedure, please contact the Repository Team at: E.mailbox@hud.ac.uk.

http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/
Students as educators and mentors: increasing awareness of the benefits and participation in sandwich placements
Among top 100 graduate recruiters:

- Third of jobs will be filled by graduates who have already worked for the organisation
- 4/5ths of these companies offer paid work experience programmes
- Without work experience graduates are unlikely to be successful during the selection process.

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Competitive
Work experience while studying

• Part time work
• Voluntary work
• Internships
• Embedded into the curriculum
• Sandwich placements – up to 48 weeks

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Taking a placement:

1. Improves academic performance
2. 50% more likely to obtain graduate level work
3. Earn £2000 more on average
• Project aim:

• To improve awareness of placements and their benefits to increase participation
Why?

- Long term benefits but take up rate low
- Students from narrow background
- Improve understanding of the benefits to increase participation rates
- Government agenda
• National uptake declined from 9.5% 2002/3 to 7.2% 2009/10
• (Education for Engineering, 2011)

• Response?
Placements students see it as a:

Positive Experience

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Supported by the placement unit

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
• Using former placement students as educators and mentors
• Speak from personal experience
• Similar age and life position
• Powerful influence in addition to tutor
• (Allen and Eby, 2010)
Start at open day

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Ongoing mentoring

- Classroom sessions
- Lunchtime briefing for all students registered for a placement
- Email contact
- Interview advice
http://ugradplacements.hud.ac.uk

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Placement Conference

Enhancing Employability through Placements in Higher Education
10am to 3pm - Tuesday 9 July 2013
The University of Huddersfield Business School

The benefits of undergraduate placements are well established, however, in the present economic climate, engaging students in the placement process is becoming a greater challenge. We invite you to attend our one-day conference to share good practice in the initiatives and interventions Higher Education institutions offer to support and encourage undergraduates in this process.

The conference will include:
- Keynote address from RateMyPlacement who will share insights, shocking statistics and best practice on how to ensure students will become hooked on securing that all important work experience
- Keynote address from Judith Kay BMIT University, Australia & Norah McBee (University of Victoria, Canada) who will discuss national perspectives of Work Integrated Learning and review the trends and issues in their respective countries
- Four open presentations with a choice of workshops to attend, delivered by speakers from a number of universities from across the UK
- A Placement Student, Employer & Graduate panel to discuss personal experiences and perspectives to aid future placement processes

The conference is FREE to attend and refreshments and a light-lunch will be provided.

For further information and bookings click on the picture above or visit:
www.hud.ac.uk/uhbs/businessschool-events/enhancingemployability

For enquiries Email: businessevents@hud.ac.uk
Telephone: 01484 472026

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Impact?

• The number of students already securing placements is 50% higher than last year

• The quality of placement is improving

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Future Developments

• Increase the number of students taking placements
• Wider social and ethnic backgrounds
• Better career planning by students throughout their studies

