

- Project Name: Development of European MSc in Basketball coaching

Amendment History:

Version No.	Date	Reason for Amendment
1	01/05/2009	New project

Name of Project Manager & Contact Details Mick Donovan - Head of Institute, Institute of Sport and Exercise Science, University of Worcester

Document Distribution

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Action/Information</i>
Debbie Lambert	LLN	Manager of the LLN	For information
Geoffrey Elliott	UW	Members of the Steering Group	To approve the proposal
Chris Morecroft	WCT		
Ian Peake	HCT		
Mike Rookes	OU		
Gail Rothnie	UoB		
Donna Obrey	LLN	Project Officer for the LLN	To track and monitor project

Background

The University of Worcester has established a reputation for Coach Development and Applied Sports Studies. It has also built up a national and international reputation for the development of Basketball coaches. In response to its high reputation the University of Worcester has developed links with the Academy for Physical Education in Lithuania, the Lithuanian Basketball Federation, and FIBA Europe in order to create a L7 award that sets the international benchmark for basketball coach development.

Objectives of the Project

To research and develop an MSc programme that will provide progression for sports students with an interest in basketball coaching; provide opportunities for new and existing basketball coaches to study at higher level, and stimulate research into basketball coaching. The project aims to develop the MSc for delivery in August 2010.

The development of the new MSc will provide progression opportunities for coaching students as well as increasing the opportunities for professional and amateur basketball coaches to develop new skills and knowledge and gain a higher level award. As such it will meet the needs of employers and fit with the FIBA , EB and the LKF coaching schemes. It will widen access to higher education in this vocational area and develop a centre of excellence through collaboration between the leading bodies in Europe.

The new MSc is an innovative project that seeks to provide opportunities to study at L7 for learners who would not normally be attracted to a formal university programme. It is anticipated that many of the applicants will use APL and APEL to access the course. The learning and teaching will be based around good practice at University of Worcester and informed by current research, and the project will investigate the opportunities for developing blended learning and distance learning elements.

Project Approach

The project will be developed by staff at University of Worcester. It will be developed in four sections:

- Research into employer needs / vocational relevance / student demand
- Research into existing provision
- Course validation
- Development of modules and course materials

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

1. Findings of research into Employer / Governing body needs
2. Findings of research into student demand
3. Partnership Agreements
4. Validated course and modules
5. Progression agreements

B Out of Scope

The funding would not be used for international travel or course advertising.

Constraints

Staff time to complete the project
Agreement between institutional bodies

Initial Project Case

The development requires funding to allow UW staff to be released from teaching and other duties, in order to develop the MSc. The project will be developed by UW staff in collaboration with the partner organisations and governing bodies.

Benefits of the Project

To students:

Development of new Progression opportunities for Sports students
Access to part-time and flexible learning for learners employed in industry
Development of higher level vocational and academic skills in coaching
Increased student employability through vocationally relevant training.

To employers

Developing the qualifications and capacity of the workforce
Introducing innovation and best practice through higher level studies.

To UW

New course at L7

Increased national and international students

Enhanced delivery for community, school, colleges and university teams

Improved international links and increased international cooperation

Enhanced reputation in basketball coaching

Opportunities for higher research

Key Assumptions

The availability of key staff

The project is based on an existing relationship with an international partner college.

Approval from the relevant governing bodies: FIBA Europe

Timescale

Research	summer 2009
Agreements with partner organisations	summer 2009
Course validation	September 2009
Development of Modules	December 2009
Progression agreements	March 2010
To complete the project	March 2010
To commence teaching	August 2010

Costs

Estimated time required:

8 days - Research into employer needs / vocational relevance / student demand

4 days – Research into existing provision

5 days - Course validation

10 days - Development of modules and course materials

Staff time: 27 days @ £185:00 per day (Band 8) = £4995:00

How will the project be evaluated?

Number of students on course

Number of students achieving MSc

Positive feedback from employers groups / governing bodies etc

How will the project be sustained?

Once developed the MSc will be self-funding.

Implications for Equality & Diversity

This course will be open to all, and will be governed by the UW codes of practice for equality and diversity. The blended learning, the range of teaching methods and the use of IT provides opportunities for a wide range of people who would otherwise not be able to engage with HE through normal regular attendance at the university. This covers people in work, or with social responsibilities and those with sensory, mobility and learning disabilities.

Initial Risk Log

The following table summarises the risks that have been identified that may prevent the project being completed to the required quality, budget and timescale. The probability and impact of each risk has been graded as low, medium or high to indicate the relative importance attached to each element of risk.

Risks	Probability	Impact	Containment Plan
Lack of Employer's involvement	L	M	Use of governing body
Staff Time	L	H	Use of consultant
Involvement of governing bodies	L	M	Subject to agreement

Project Team

Mick Donovan UW
Gareth Jones UW
Derek Peters UW