

PE, Sport Development & Coaching Student Conference 2007



What is it?

In January 2007 the Physical Education, Sport Development & Teaching Subject Team held a 2 day professional conference for 450 students studying:

- BSc PE & Youth Sport
- BSc Sport Development with Coaching
- PGCE Physical Education
- MSc Sport Development

The aim of the conference was to develop an innovative learning & teaching environment with the support of industry specialists who facilitated over 50 workshops around the themes of PE, sport development, coaching & health- related physical activity. There was also a strong emphasis upon the students' future employability with additional workshops that centred around career & personal development.

What was involved?

The organisation of the conference was headed up by one member of staff however members of the subject team all contributed to its overall development. In particular, all of the industry specialists who ran workshops or delivered keynote speeches were secured through personal staff contacts and some were actual graduates of sports courses at Hallam. Of particular note was the keynote delivery by:

- Rt. Hon Richard Caborn Minister for Sport
- Sue Campbell CBE Chair of UK Sport

Why is the project important to the CETL and the University?

The project has enabled the CETL to directly impact upon not only the students and staff involved, but also to positively promote the work of the University to a wider external audience. It is hoped that the conference will now not only become an annual event, but discussions are already under way with other organisations to develop it into a national conference for students studying sport.

What do you hope the project will achieve?

The conference was a resounding success on many levels, from the high level of student engagement through to the positive feedback from the speakers in terms of their view of students at Hallam. The following quote sums up the overall feeling of the students:

" It was fantastic and I think as 3rd years when the prospect of getting a job looms in the not so distant future it is daunting but this conference really gave me the chance to meet people in the industry! Over the period of a 3 year course you invariably ask yourself is this really what I want to do and do I want a change? The conference really confirmed to me that this IS where I want to work and what I want to be involved with and the speeches given by all the speaking guests motivated me to make the difference!"

Links

Conference website: <http://extra.shu.ac.uk/pesdc>

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